

COUNTY OF AYR



ANNUAL REPORT

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1953

AND

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1953-54



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THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1953-54

To the Department of Health for Scotland
and to the Ayr County Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the County for the year 1953, together with the Report on the Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children for the year ended 31st July, 1954.

The statistics can be generally considered to be satisfactory. The birth rate showed an increase of 0.8 and the death rate a fall of 0.4 per thousand, as compared with last year's figures. The infantile mortality rate 31 equalled that for Scotland, while the still-birth rate showed a fall of two on the figure for 1952. The death rates from pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis were the lowest ever recorded, while deaths from cancer showed a slight increase and deaths from heart disease a slight decrease.

There were 21 additional cases of pulmonary tuberculosis confirmed compared with last year, while the non-pulmonary cases confirmed were two less. In October a start was made to immunise the 13-year-old children against tuberculosis; by the end of the year 1,014 children had been skin tested and of these 691 received B.C.G.

There were 21 cases of poliomyelitis compared with 7 in 1952. As last year, no case of diphtheria occurred in the County.

The District Nurses reported 72 accidents in the home; 90 per cent. were due to burns and scalds; 36 per cent. of the cases were under two years of age and 61 per cent. under five years of age.

The number of long-term cases served by the Domestic Help Scheme continued to mount. Now 43 per cent. of the households have had Helps for more than one year.

On the retirement of the Welfare Officer at the end of the year, the County Council decided to have a combined Health and Welfare Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. ROUGHEAD,

County Medical Officer.

COUNTY BUILDINGS,
AYR,

STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health and Chief Administrative School
Medical Officer—*

JOHN A. ROUGHEAD, M.D., D.P.H.

Depute Medical Officer of Health—

JOHN S. JACKSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer—

ALICE K. MONTGOMERY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.

Psychiatrist—

G. A. W. ANGUS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. (resigned 20/6/53).

K. W. ARON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. (date of commencement 17/12/54).

*Assistant School Medical Officers (also Child Welfare Medical
Officers)—*

HELEN M. WIGHTMAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

ENID M. DIXON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MARGARET C. P. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JEAN M. DIXON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JESSIE B. MACLACHLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

AGNES M. HIGHET, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.

Assistant Medical Officer—Tuberculosis Scheme.

ROBERT D. WHITELOW, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (appointed 1/9/53).

Chief Dental Officer—

ARNOLD J. DUNCAN, L.D.S.

Assistant School Dental Officers—

MYRETTE J. J. DAVIDSON, L.D.S. (appointed 16/1/53 ;
resigned 1/10/53).

PETER MCG. GARDNER, L.D.S.

IAN HARVEY, L.D.S. (appointed 16/1/53).

THOMAS H. KERR, L.D.S.

AGNES J. PURDIE, L.D.S.

CHRISTINE M. RODGER, L.D.S.

MONTGOMERY B. SIMPSON, L.D.S.

JEAN B. STEVENSON, L.D.S. (appointed 16/1/53).

ARCHIBALD W. M. WATSON, L.D.S.

THOMAS L. H. WIGHTMAN, L.D.S.

JAMES WILSON, L.D.S. (appointed 16/1/53).

Assistant Dental Officers—Care of Mothers and Young Children—

MORAG GALE, L.D.S. (Appointed 2/3/53).

WILMA S. PRINGLE, L.D.S. (resigned 31/12/53).

DENTAL ATTENDANTS—14.

County Nursing Superintendent—

MISS JANET S. HASTIE.

DISTRICT NURSE/MIDWIFE/HEALTH VISITORS.....73

TUBERCULOSIS NURSES..... 4

OTHERS..... 4

Matron, Residential Nursery, Irvine—

MISS N. G. LEES.

Matron, Residential Nursery, Kilwinning—

MISS HELEN GRANT.

Matron, St. Leonard's Home, Ayr—

MISS A. D. PEDDIE.

Audiometrician—

MISS JEAN B. THOMSON.

Home Helps Organiser—

MRS. MARGARET RAMSAY.

Welfare Visitor—

MISS A. S. KELLOCK.

Welfare Visitor (Tuberculosis)—

MISS H. H. SMITH.

Clerical Staff—

Chief Clerk—J. B. HANNAH.

Secretary to M.O.H.—MISS D. A. AULD.

Senior Clerkess (Child Welfare)—MISS M. DALZIEL.

Senior Clerk (School Health)—OLIVER MUIR.

Other Clerical Staff13

BURGH OF AYR.

School Medical Officer—

R. L. LEASK, M.B., CH.B., B.Sc. (P.H.), D.P.H., D.P.A.

Assistant School Medical Officer—

A. G. SKED, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

School Nurses—

7 PART-TIME NURSES.

Clerical Staff—

1 PART-TIME CLERKES.

BURGH OF KILMARNOCK.

School Medical Officer—

B. R. NISBET, M.D., F.R.C.P. (ED.), D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer—

G. FIDES M. BRAID, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.

School Nurses—

6 PART-TIME NURSES.

Clerical Staff—

2 PART-TIME CLERKESSES.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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County Medical Officer's Report.

1953.

A.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population and Area.—The Registrar General has estimated the population of the Landward Area and Small Burghs to middle of 1953 as 238,912. This figure is 2,307 more than his estimate for 1952.

Births.—The live births registered after correction for transfers were 4,405, equivalent to a birth rate of 18·4 per thousand of population, which exceeds that of the preceding year. The figure for Scotland was 17·8. The rates for previous years, of which I have record, are :—

1916-20—Average Birth-rate...	...	...	...	25·9
1921-25 " " " "	...	...	...	22·1
1926-30 " " " "	...	...	...	18·5
1931-35 " " " "	...	...	...	18·6
1936-40 " " " "	...	...	...	18·2
1941-45 " " " "	...	...	...	18·1
1946-50 " " " "	...	...	...	19·7
1951 — Birth-rate	...	...	...	17·6
1952 " " " "	...	...	...	17·6
1953 " " " "	...	...	...	18·4

The number of still-births registered after correction for transfers during the year was 102, giving a rate of 23 per thousand total births compared with 25 for Scotland. The number of still-births registered, for a number of years past, with the corresponding rates per thousand total births are as follows :—

	<i>Still-Births.</i>	<i>Rate per Thousand Total Births.</i>
1941-45—Average	... 153	41
1946-50— " "	... 130	27
1951 ... ...	... 89	21
1952 ... ...	... 105	25
1953 ... ...	... 102	23

The details applicable to individual Burghs are given in Table II.

Deaths.—The deaths registered after correction for transfers were 2,572, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 10·8, as compared with

11.2 in 1952. The Scottish figure was 11.5. The following are the figures so far as they are available for preceding years :—

1916-20—Average Death-rate	...	...	...	14.6
1921-25	„	„	...	11.5
1926-30	„	„	...	11.2
1931-35	„	„	...	12.5
1936-40	„	„	...	12.8
1941-45	„	„	...	12.1
1946-50	„	„	...	11.3
1951 —Death-rate	...	...	...	12.2
1952	„	...	...	11.2
1953	„	...	...	10.8

Tables I., II. and III. show the mortality in the County Area and Burghs during the year, and Table IV. gives similar figures of deaths at different ages with the percentages of the total deaths.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of infants under one year who died during the year was 135, equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 31, as compared with 30 during the preceding year. The following are the figures for previous years so far as they are available :—

1916-20—Average Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	94
1921-25	„	„	89
1926-30	„	„	74
1931-35	„	„	73
1936-40	„	„	71
1941-45	„	„	63
1946-50	„	„	39
1951 —Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	37
1952	„	„	30
1953	„	„	31

Of the total deaths, 85 (63 per cent.) occurred during the first week of life and 93 (69 per cent.) within the first four weeks.

The main causes of death were congenital malformations, 24 (18 per cent.); pneumonia, 19 (14 per cent.); injury at birth 31 (23 per cent.); diarrhoea, 5 (4 per cent.); and other diseases peculiar to early infancy, 43 (32 per cent.).

Deaths from Infectious Diseases.—The deaths which occurred from the ordinary infectious diseases were measles 1, cerebro-spinal fever 1, and whooping cough 4.

Deaths from Tuberculous Diseases.—The deaths from respiratory and other forms of tuberculosis were 35 and 5 respectively, giving death-rates of 0·15 and 0·02. The corresponding figures for the previous year were deaths 38 and 12, and death-rates 0·16 and 0·05. The following are the average deaths-rates so far as they are available :—

	<i>Respiratory Tuberculosis.</i>	<i>Other forms of Tuberculosis.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1916-20 (Average) ...	·79	·44	1·23
1921-25 (Average) ...	·52	·28	·80
1926-30 (Average) ...	·45	·24	·69
1931-35 (Average) ...	·38	·19	·57
1936-40 (Average) ...	·36	·13	·49
1941-45 (Average) ...	·37	·17	·54
1946-50 (Average) ...	·33	·09	·42
1951	·23	·06	·29
1952	·16	·05	·21
1953	·15	·02	·17

Deaths from Pneumonia.—There were 53 deaths from pneumonia, equivalent to a death-rate of 0·22. During the previous year the deaths were 67, equal to a death-rate of 0·28. The following are the average death-rates from pneumonia since 1931 :—

1931-35 (Average) ...	·67	1951	·39
1936-40 (Average) ...	·63	1952	·28
1941-45 (Average) ...	·46	1953	·22
1946-50 (Average) ...	·34		

Deaths from other Diseases of the Respiratory System.—There were 91 deaths recorded from this group of diseases, which includes all the diseases of the organs of respiration except pneumonia and pulmonary tuberculosis. These figures are equivalent to a death-rate of 0·38, as compared with a rate of 0·34 for the previous year.

Deaths from Influenza.—The deaths due to influenza numbered 7, giving a death-rate of 0·03. During 1952 the deaths were 13 and the death-rate 0·06. The following are the average death-rates from influenza since 1931 :—

1931-35 (Average) ...	0·48	1951	0·19
1936-40 (Average) ...	0·28	1952	0·06
1941-45 (Average) ...	0·08	1953	0·03
1946-50 (Average) ...	0·08		

Deaths from Cancer.—The deaths from cancer were 420, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 1·76, as compared with 1·73 in the previous year.

The following are the average death-rates from cancer for a number of years :—

1931-35	... ..	1·28	1951	... ..	1·67
1936-40	... ..	1·48	1952	... ..	1·73
1941-45	... ..	1·58	1953	... ..	1·76
1946-50	... ..	1·63			

Deaths from Diseases of the Nervous System.—This group of diseases, which includes such causes as cerebral haemorrhage, apoplexy, etc., accounted for 476 of the deaths occurring in the area, being a death-rate of 1·99, as against 2·03 in the preceding year.

Deaths from Diseases of the Digestive System.—The deaths were 76, equivalent to a death-rate of 0·32, as compared with 0·38 in the preceding year.

Deaths from Diseases of the Circulatory System.—The number of deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart and other organs of circulation was 1,010, giving a death-rate of 4·23, as compared with 4·43 in the previous year.

Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Parturition.—The maternal mortality rate in 1953 was 0·44 per thousand births, which compares with 0·9 for Scotland as a whole during that year. The average maternal mortality rates for the County during the period 1931 to 1953 were as follows :—

1931-35 (Average)	... ..	6·2	1951	... ..	0·7
1936-40 (Average)	... ..	4·7	1952	... ..	0·2
1941-45 (Average)	... ..	2·4	1953	... ..	0·4
1946-50 (Average)	... ..	1·4			

B.—LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS.

(1) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) **Expectant and Nursing Mothers.**—The County Council provides a nurse and the premises for eight ante-natal and post-natal clinics in various centres in the County—the Doctor being provided by the Regional Hospital Board. All patients attending these clinics are booked for hospital, but a general practitioner may refer cases if he so desires. In addition, clinics are held at the Maternity Hospital, Irvine, by the Consultant Obstetrician.

The following are the figures relating to Ante-Natal Clinics in the form required by the Department of Health :—

	<i>Ante-Natal.</i>	<i>Post-Natal.</i>
(i) Number of Clinics at end of the year provided by the Local Health Authority	— 8	—
(ii) Number of Clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies ...	Nil	Nil
(iii) Number of women who attended the Clinics during the year ...	1389	341
(iv) Total number of attendances made by women during the year ...	8209	341

Care of Unmarried Mothers.—The provision of guidance and help to unmarried mothers was continued throughout the year.

Assistance was extended to 76 girls by the Welfare Visitor who paid, in all, 174 visits to their homes.

The nature of the help given can be seen from the following figures. Several cases fall into more than one category :—

	<i>No. of Instances.</i>
(1) Advice in obtaining decree of affiliation and aliment against the father of the child ...	13
(2) Advice regarding legal adoption	27
(3) Help in finding suitable accommodation for the child where it was necessary for the mother to work	29
(4) Advice regarding entitlement and help in obtaining allowances from the Ministry of National Insurance, National Assistance Board, etc.	21
(5) Help in finding suitable employment	9
(6) General advice	40
(7) Help in obtaining housing accommodation ...	4

Supply of Maternity Outfits.—During the year 1,236 maternity outfits were supplied to mothers for domiciliary confinement.

(b) Child Welfare.—The Local Authority provides 40 Child Welfare Clinics at various centres in the County. The majority of these are held weekly by the District Nurses, with the attendance of an Assistant Medical Officer every fortnight.

The following are the statistics relating to Child Welfare Clinics in the form prescribed by the Department of Health :—

(i) Number of clinics provided at the end of the year by the Local Health Authority	...	...	...	40
(ii) Number of clinics at end of the year provided by voluntary bodies	...	...	...	Nil
(iii) Number of children attending the clinics during the year and who on the date of their first attendance this year were—				
Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	2,895
Over 1 year of age	...	...	...	1,744
(iv) Total number of attendances made during the year by children who at the time of attendance were—				
Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	40,698
Over 1 year of age	...	...	...	10,531

(c) Care of Premature Infants.—There is no special provision made for the domiciliary care of premature infants, but liaison with the hospital is extremely close and all premature infants can be admitted without delay.

(d) Supply of Dried Milks, etc.—The arrangement made with the Ministry of Food for distribution of welfare foods is that these will be given out by the local Food Office where this exists, and by the Child Welfare Clinics where there is no local Food Office. No arrangements are made by the Authority for any other supply of dried milk or nutrients.

(e) **Dental Care.**—Mr. A. J. Duncan, Chief Dental Officer, reports as follows :—

“During the year two dentists were appointed to undertake the dental examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age, bringing the number of dentists employed by the County Council to fourteen. In order to provide continuity of service, each dentist is allocated an area in which he is responsible for all dental services to school children and those of the priority classes.

Dental examination and treatment were offered to patients presenting themselves at various clinics. It is intended to co-operate with the Maternity Staff of the Hospital Boards at Clinics throughout the County in an endeavour to examine dentally all new cases enrolled at the pre-natal clinics and to point out the advantages of a healthy mouth and of the benefits of dental treatment in early pregnancy both for the mother and the unborn child.

Pre-school children are referred by the Clinic Doctor or Nurse and should be sent to the nearest school where the dentist is operating, when immediate treatment can be given.

EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS—

Number of Patients Examined	...	...	...	54
Number of Patients requiring Treatment	...	...	...	51
Number of Patients accepting Treatment	...	...	...	31
Number of Patients Treated	...	...	...	31
Dentures	...	...	...	4
Fillings	...	...	...	15
Extractions	...	...	...	11
Dressings	...	...	...	5
Scalings	...	...	...	3

PRE-SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN—

Number of Patients Examined	...	...	...	10
Number of Patients Requiring Treatment	...	...	...	10
Number of Patients Treated	...	...	...	10
Temporary Teeth Extracted	...	...	...	11
Dressings	...	...	...	2
Gum Treatment	...	...	...	1

(f) **Other Provisions.**—There are two residential nurseries in the County, one at Irvine and the other at Kilwinning. These nurseries are primarily provided for children of unmarried mothers or mothers who have to go out to work because they are the bread-winners of the family.

(2) Use of Clinic Premises by General Practitioners and Hospital Board Personnel.

The policy of the County Council is to allow their clinic premises where ever possible to be used by Regional Hospital Board Medical Staff and by General Practitioners. The new Clinic at Beith is now in use by the local general practitioners.

The extent to which the clinics are used by General Practitioners and Regional Hospital Board Staff is shown in the following list :—

(a) BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS—

Clinic Premises,	9-10 a.m. and 5-6	Dr. A. Watt.
James Street,	p.m. daily.	Dr. J. S. Gordon.
Dalry.		Dr. W. M. Wilson.

Clinic Premises,	Every Friday,	Dr. A. Begg and
Kirkland Road,	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Dr. G. R. How.
Kilbirnie.		

Clinic Premises,	Mon., Wed., Fri.,	} Dr. W. L. Kennedy.
Adj. to Janet	10.15 to 11.15 a.m.	
Cott., Annbank.	Tues. and Thurs.,	
	5-6 p.m.	
Do.	Mon., Wed., Fri.,	Dr. W. J. Scott.
	9.30 to 10 a.m.	

Clinic Premises,	Mon., Tues., Wed.,	Dr. I. F. Somerville.
Strand, Beith.	Fri., 6 p.m.-8 p.m.	Dr. W. Jamieson.
	Sat., 2 p.m.-4 p.m.	

Do.	Mon., Tues., Thur.,	Dr. J. S. Macdonald.
	Fri., 2-3 p.m. and	
	6-7 p.m.	
	Wed. and Sat.,	
	10-11 a.m.	

(b) BY REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARDS PERSONNEL—

Clinic Premises,	Every Monday,	Physiotherapist.
King St., Ayre.	1.30 to 4.30 p.m.	

Do.	Every Monday	Ophthalmic Specialist.
	morning and	
	Thursday afternoon.	

Do.	Every Tuesday and	Orthoptist.
	Wednesday (full	
	day).	

Clinic Premises, Millbank, Cumnock.	Second and fourth Thursdays monthly at 2.30 p.m.	Paediatrician.
Do.	Fourth Wednesday, 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	Physiotherapist.
Do.	Monday afternoons (when required) and Thursday mornings.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Medical Room, High School, Dalry.	When required.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Clinic Premises, Wesley Place, Girvan.	When required.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Do.	Tuesday and Thursday mornings	Physiotherapist.
Clinic Premises, 117 Bank Street, Irvine.	Every Thursday morning.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Clinic Premises, Kirkland Road, Kilbirnie.	Wednesday mornings.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Clinic Premises, Ladyford Ave., Kilwinning.	Every Thursday at 1.30 p.m.	Physiotherapist.
Do.	Every Monday, 2-4 p.m.	Paediatrician.
Clinic Premises, Moorburn Road, Largs.	First and Third Thursdays, month- ly (afternoons).	Orthopaedic Surgeon.
Do.	As required.	Ophthalmic Specialist.
Do.	Second Thursday each month (full day), and fourth Thursday each month (afternoon)	Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist.

Clinic Premises, Every Monday and Orthoptist.
Campbell Ave., Thursday (full day).
Saltcoats.

Do. Every Friday Ophthalmic Specialist.
morning.

(3) Domiciliary Midwifery.

All midwives employed by the County, with the exception of one who is due to retire in the near future, have been trained in the administration of gas and air, and this is in constant use by these midwives.

The following are the statistics regarding midwifery in the form prescribed by the Department of Health :—

- (i) (a) Total number of Births occurring in the area during year
—that is before correction for mother's residence—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	4,150
Still Births	...	...	...	...	119
					<hr/>
TOTAL					4,269

- (b) Total number notified to the Medical Officer
of Health 4,214

- (ii) Total number of Births occurring in Institutions
(including private maternity homes)... .. 2,926

- (iii) Total number of Births occurring at home—

Live	...	...	...	...	1,271
Still	...	...	...	...	17
					<hr/>
TOTAL					1,288

(iv) Number of Births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth—

	Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.				Other Domiciliary Cases.				Total.
	Doctor Engaged and Present at Confinement.	Doctor Engaged and not Present at Confinement.	Midwife Alone (no Doctor Engaged).		Doctor and Midwife Engaged	Midwife alone (no Doctor Engaged)	Without Doctor or Midwife	All Other Cases.	
(a) Midwives Employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis)	362	918	6		—	—	—	—	1,286
(b) Midwives Employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives Employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private Practising Midwives	—	—	—		1	1	—	—	2
(e) Other Cases	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	362	918	6		1	1	—	—	1,288

(v) Medical Aid—

- (a) No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951, by a Midwife—

	<i>Total</i>
(i) For Domiciliary Cases	6
(ii) For Institutional Cases	—
	<hr/> 6

(vi) Administration of Analgesics—

- (a) No. of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland (including superintendents, non-medical supervisors of midwives, midwife teachers, midwives employed by the local Health Authority and by voluntary organisations, private practising midwives and hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases under arrangements made by the local Health Authority and the Regional Hospital Board, but excluding pupil midwives undergoing training on the district)—

- (i) No. in (a) employed on local Health Authority work ... 68
- (ii) No. in (a) not employed on local Health Authority work ... —

68

- (b) No. of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year Nil

- (c) No. of sets of Apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31/12/53—

- (i) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on Local Authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases) 44

- (ii) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local Health Authority work ... —

44

(d) No. of sets on order at 31/12/53 (four in stock) Nil

(e) No. of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)—

(i) When doctor was not present at delivery 308

(ii) When doctor was present at delivery 119
— 427

(f) No. of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)—

(i) When doctor was not present at delivery 403

(ii) When doctor was present at delivery 183
— 586

(vii) No. of Cars in use by Midwives at 31/12/53 (including two privately-owned by District Nurses) 49

Additional Information—

Institutional Births—

Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine	...	...	...	1,770
Kilwinning Maternity Home	...	...	...	998
Davidson Hospital, Girvan	...	...	...	108
Greystones Nursing Home, Prestwick	...	...	...	50

(4) Health Visiting.

The following are the number of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year :—

				<i>Number Visited.</i>	<i>Total Visits.</i>
*Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	—	—
Infants	...	...	...	4,375	35,682
Children (1-5 years)	...	...	...	16,781	45,544
Tuberculosis Patients	...	...	...	1,050	6,064
Other Cases	...	...	...	—	—

*All visits in this category were paid by Health Visitors/Midwives who attended the confinement. The total number of visits was 35,854.

(5) Home Nursing.

(i) Number of cases attended by District Nurses in their capacity as Home Nurses 8,167

(ii) Number of visits paid by Nurses to these cases 134,714

The number of elderly patients (those aged 65 years or over) included in the former figure was 2,454. The total number of visits paid to these elderly patients was 66,793.

Nurses Homes and Clinics.—The following premises have been completed :—

*Date of Approval
by Department of
Health.*

Hurlford—Nurse's House May, 1949. Occupied Sept., 1953.

The following have been approved and progress is indicated :—
Dailly—Nurse's House March, 1951. Nearing completion.

Dalmellington—Nurse's
House and Clinic ... May, 1949. Site negotiations in progress.

Largs—Nurse's House... August, 1950. Nearing completion.

Muirkirk—Nurse's House
and Clinic December, 1953. Working drawing being prepared.

New Cumnock — Child
Welfare Clinic December, 1953. Working drawing being prepared.

Newmilns—Nurse's House
and Clinic July, 1951. Site negotiations in progress.

Stewarton—Nurse's House
and Clinic August, 1950. Nearing completion.

The approval of the Department of Health is awaited for the building of a Child Welfare Clinic at Mauchline.

(6) Domestic Help Scheme.

Under the Council's Home Help Scheme which has been operating throughout the County since October, 1949, domestic assistance is given in circumstances of household difficulty owing to illness, old age or confinement. The numbers of households which have benefited from the Scheme during the past four years have been as follows :—

1949.....	85	1952	695
1950.....	388	1953	697
1951.....	524		

At 31st December, 1953, the number of Home Helps employed was 220, and the number of families served 237. A table showing the areas in which these families resided and the duration of help given is appended. The number of hours' attendance is carefully adjusted to actual need and varies from six hours to forty-eight hours weekly. The average is twenty-two hours weekly.

Of the 697 cases dealt with in 1953, 442 were on account of chronic sickness (including aged and infirm cases) and 103 on account of confinement.

It will be observed from the Table provided that, at the end of the year, the duration of help to 103 households exceeded one year. This figure represented 43% of the homes then being served. The proportion of such long-term cases has in fact been steadily increasing with the development of the Scheme. In the majority of these instances the household consists either of an aged couple or of an aged widow or spinster, who have no relatives available to assist, and who are entirely dependent on the services of home help though in a number of cases neighbours do lend some assistance. Many of these patients are entirely confined to bed or, if not bedridden, are in such poor health that they cannot cope with the heavier part of their housework. Although not the intention of the Scheme that home help would be given for indefinite periods, it has been found necessary to give extended assistance in these cases.

Where the income of the householders permits a charge is made to cover the Council's outlay, plus a 5% administrative charge. The householder may, however, declare his full income, supported by wages certificates, and pay a proportion only of the Council's outlay according to his means. The minimum charge is now 10/- per week. At the end of the year it was calculated that 76% of those making use of the service were paying the minimum charge.

AYR COUNTY COUNCIL—HOME HELP SERVICE.

NUMBER OF CASES DEALT WITH DURING 1953 AND DURATION OF CASES SERVED AT END OF YEAR.

District.	No. of Cases dealt with at 31/12/52.	No. of Cases supplied with Help during year.	No. of Cases completed during year.	No. of Cases at 31/12/53.	Over years.	Between 1½ years and 2 years.	Between 1 year and 1½ years.	Between 9 months and 1 year.	Between 6 months and 9 months.	Between 4 months and 6 months.	3-4 months.	2-3 months.	1-2 months.	Less than 1 month.
Anbank	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ardrossan/Saltcoats/Stevenston and West Kilbride.....	34	86	83	37	8	1	5	4	6	4	—	—	6	3
Auchinleck.....	4	16	12	8	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—
Beth.....	16	28	31	13	6	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1
Catrine.....	1	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cumnock.....	1	17	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dalmellington.....	1	4	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairy	15	14	16	13	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Darvel.....	3	5	3	5	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Dreghorn/Springside.....	1	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Drybridge.....	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dundonald.....	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fenwick.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Galston.....	12	11	12	11	5	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—
Girvan.....	3	6	6	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Hurlford.....	8	15	17	6	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irvine.....	15	30	31	15	—	3	4	1	2	2	1	—	2	—
Kilbirnie/Glengarnock.....	20	26	29	17	6	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Kilmaurs/Crosbie.....	3	5	3	5	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	2
Kilwinning.....	13	19	21	11	6	1	3	1	6	2	1	—	—	1
Largs.....	12	30	26	16	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	—
Maybole.....	3	13	7	9	1	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
Mauchline.....	2	6	2	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Muirkirk.....	10	17	20	7	2	1	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
New Cumnock.....	10	10	15	5	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Newmilns.....	10	7	10	7	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Prestwick.....	10	47	47	10	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Stewarton.....	1	4	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tarbolton.....	1	7	6	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Troon.....	15	37	33	19	4	2	—	2	5	—	—	1	2	—
TOTALS.....	227	470	460	237	54	24	25	21	34	20	12	9	19	20

(7) Vaccination and Immunisation.

(a) **Vaccination.**—Details of vaccinations notified during the year are as follow :—

	<i>Primary Vaccinations.</i>	<i>Re- Vaccinations.</i>
(1) Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th to 10th Day	1798	165
(2) Accelerated (Vaccinoid) Reaction (5th to 7th Day)	18	74
(3) Reaction greatest at 2nd to 3rd Day	11	178
(4) No Local Reaction	62	55
	1,889	472

Of the 1,889 persons who received primary vaccination, 1,023 were children born in 1953 and 640 were children born in 1952.

(b) Diphtheria Immunisation.

	<i>New Inoculations.</i>	<i>Maintenance Inoculations.</i>
Pre-School Children ...	2,981	—
School Children	749	3,363
TOTALS	3,730	3,363

(c) **Whooping Cough Immunisation.**—For a number of years material for immunising children against whooping cough has been supplied free of charge to private practitioners, and a fee of two shillings and sixpence per injection has been paid in respect of children inoculated during their first year. The County Council supplies combined diphtheria and whooping cough vaccine free of charge to general practitioners.

The following is a summary of completed cards received during 1953 :—

<i>Year of Birth.</i>							<i>Number of Children.</i>
1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	1648
1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	275
1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prior	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
TOTAL							2528

(8) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care with Special Reference to Tuberculosis.

There were notified 181 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 26 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Excluding cases temporarily resident in the area and cases not confirmed, the new cases belonging to the area who came under notice during the year were 180 of pulmonary tuberculosis and 25 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Of the 180 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis 71 were males and 109 were females. 83 per cent. (150) of these cases received institutional treatment during the year.

Including cases notified in previous years, 235 patients were admitted to Hospitals and Homes during 1953 as follows :—

Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine	...	...	...	150
Heathfield Hospital, Ayr	...	...	...	35
Glenafton Sanatorium, New Cumnock	...	...	...	32
Robroyston Hospital, Glasgow...	...	...	...	1
Kaimshill Children's Hospital, Kilmarnock	...	...	...	15
Mearns Kirk Hospital, Newton-Mearns...	...	...	...	2
				<u>235</u>

There were 35 deaths, of which 15 (43 per cent.) occurred in institutions.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—The 25 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are classified as follows according to the localisation of the disease :—

	No. of Cases.
Superficial Lymphatic Glands	4
Abdomen	2
Bones and Joints (excluding Spine)	7
Spine	2
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue	—
Meninges	8
Genito-Urinary Organs	2
Other Parts	—

Including cases notified in previous years 25 patients were admitted to Hospitals and Homes during 1953 as follows :—

Ayrshire Central Hospital and Glenafton Sanatorium	8
Glasgow Royal Infirmary	1
Mearns Kirk Hospital, Newton-Mearns... ..	9
Robroyston Hospital, Glasgow... ..	4
Heathfield Hospital, Ayr	2
Gateside Hospital, Greenock	1
	<hr/>
	25
	<hr/>

There were 5 deaths, of which 3 occurred in institutions.

Preventive Care and After-Care.—Four Tuberculosis Nurses, a Welfare Officer and a Clerkess are engaged in the Council's Preventive Care and After-Care Service. Although on the staff of the Medical Officer of Health, all these are centred at the Area Chest Clinics and work under the direct supervision of Dr. J. T. Boyd, Area Supervising Tuberculosis Physician, with whom a close liaison is maintained.

Hospital Accommodation.—Dr. Boyd states that the total number of beds provided for adults in Ayrshire, including the two large Burghs, is 298 (137 for males and 161 for females), and that there are 32 beds for children suffering from primary infections. At no time during the year has the waiting-list given rise to concern.

B.C.G. Immunisation Scheme.—Dr. R. D. Whitelaw, Assistant Medical Officer, was appointed on 1/9/53 to carry out the County's Immunisation Scheme. For convenience, he is based at the Chest Clinic, Ayrshire Central Hospital.

In October a scheme for the inoculation of certain school children with B.C.G. was begun. Children born in the year 1940 were selected as the most suitable age group for this purpose.

The details of the scheme were explained in a circular to all the parents concerned and consent was obtained in a large majority of cases. These children received a preliminary injection into the skin in order to demonstrate whether or not they had acquired a degree of immunity to tuberculosis by natural means. Children who showed no reaction two days after the initial injection were given B.C.G.

Up to the end of the year 17 schools had been surveyed. The total number of children in the selected age group was 1,500. Of this number 1,133 were available by the consent of their parents (75·3%). Of these 106 were not included on account of absence and 13 had been previously tested, leaving a total of 1,014. The number tested who showed a positive reaction to the preliminary Mantoux test was 323 (31·8%). The number of children given B.C.G. was 691.

The percentage of Mantoux positive children in the various schools visited varied between 48·7% and 4·16%.

Statistics for the year 1953, in the form required by the Department of Health, are :—

	<i>Tuberculin Tested.</i>		<i>Negative Re-actors.</i>		<i>Vaccinated during 1953</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
(1) Nurses	—	128	—	10	—	9
(2) Medical Students...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Contacts	262	258	168	150	133	130
(4) Special Groups not included in (1) to (3) above—						
(a) School Leavers ...	481	533	311	380	311	380
(b) New Born Babies	—	—	—	—	—	—
(5) Others	19	31	18	14	1	4

Domiciliary Treatment.—Cases suitable for treatment at home or awaiting admission to hospital were visited by the Tuberculosis Nurses, who paid 6,064 visits to 1,050 cases.

In addition to hospital visits the Welfare Officer paid 927 home visits and dealt with 435 persons who called for advice ; 374 cases were referred to the National Assistance Board ; 106 to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, and 40 to voluntary organisations.

Supply of Milk.—The number of free milk vouchers issued was 604 covering some 13,500 gallons of milk at an approximate cost of £3,150.

Bed and Bedding.—Complete outfits of bedstead and bedding were issued on loan to 13 patients ; 4 patients were granted articles of bedding only.

	<i>On Loan at 31/12/52.</i>	<i>Issued 1953.</i>	<i>With- drawn 1953.</i>	<i>Written off.</i>	<i>Remaining on Loan at 31/12/53.</i>
Bedsteads.....	22	13	—	5	30
Mattresses.....	25	14	—	6	33
Blankets.....	124	40	—	75	89
Sheets.....	115	30	—	75	70
Pillows.....	43	20	—	28	35
Pillow Cases.....	56	25	—	38	43

Housing.—Many Housing Authorities within the County made an effort to re-house patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis of a communicable type. This preventive measure greatly minimises the spread of infection to other members of the family.

Mass Radiography.—The Mass Radiography Unit carried out surveys in the Hurlford and Kilmaurs area between 13th and 28th January ; at Glengall Mental Hospital between 2nd and 5th February ; and at Prestwick Airport between 10th and 18th February. The following is an analysis of the survey :—

	<i>Adults.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
Number Examined	1,924	113
Number referred for Large Films ...	76	1
Number who did not re-attend ...	1	—
No abnormality	25	1
Abnormality not significant—		
No further action—		
Tuberculous	19	—
Non-Tuberculous	16	—

Significant Abnormalities—

Lesions probably Tuberculous—

For Treatment...	...	...	3	—
For Observation	...	...	2	—
Lesions probably Non-Tuberculous			6	—
Cardio Vascular	...	...	4	—
Refused Further Investigation	...		—	—
Number Examined Clinically	...		26	—

Incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Beith.—In March it was reported by the Area Chest Physician that an unusual number of acute cases of pulmonary tuberculosis had occurred in a factory in this area during the past few months. In an effort to trace the source of the infection, the Manager requested a visit from the Mass Radiography Unit. This Unit stationed in Motherwell was not available at that time, but an arrangement was made whereby those employees who were willing were transported by 'bus to the Chest Clinic, Ayrshire Central Hospital. No further cases were revealed.

(9) Control of Infectious Disease.

No major outbreak of notifiable infectious disease occurred in the County.

Incidence of Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases Occurring in Institutions.—During August and September, 1953, a minor outbreak of Measles occurred in the Residential Nursery, The Moor, Irvine. There were 10 cases notified, 3 males and 7 females. All cases were removed to Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine.

A small outbreak of Measles also occurred in Hazeldene Children's Home, Kilwinning, during February and March, 1953. There were 8 cases notified, 4 males and 4 females. All cases were removed to Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine.

There was, in addition, a considerable number of Chickenpox cases in the Residential Nursery, The Moor, Irvine, during November and December, the total being 19 cases. These cases consisted of 8 males and 11 females.

Chickenpox and Measles are not normally notifiable in this County, but those occurring in Institutions are reported and, invariably, admitted to Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine.

(a) Diseases notified under the Infectious Disease (Notifications) Act, 1889, and subsequently confirmed :—

Smallpox and Cholera.—No case occurred of either disease.

Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).—There were no cases of diphtheria during the year. This is the second year in succession that such has been the case.

The following are the cases and deaths since 1940 :—

<i>Cases.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>
1940	391	13	1947	40	5
1941	538	19	1948	17	—
1942	545	15	1949	7	1
1943	420	11	1950	1	—
1944	343	6	1951	1	—
1945	277	5	1952	—	—
1946	190	1	1953	—	—

Erysipelas.—The number of cases was 30, as compared with 26 in 1952. There were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever.—There were 288 cases, as compared with 487 in the previous year. This was the ninth year in succession in which there were no deaths from scarlet fever. The incidence varied from previous years in that in no particular area was there an undue number of cases at any given time.

Typhus Fever.—No case was reported.

Enteric Fever (including Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever).—One case of Paratyphoid occurred, as compared with two in the previous year. There were no cases of typhoid during 1953—two cases had occurred in the previous year.

Relapsing and Continued Fever.—No cases of continued fever occurred. There were two cases in the previous year.

Puerperal Sepsis.—One case occurred. The following are the cases and deaths since 1933, in five-yearly periods :—

<i>Cases.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>
1933-37	75	27	1943-47	81	11
1938-42	47	27	1948-52	7	1

(b) Diseases notified in terms of Regulations of the Department of Health and subsequently confirmed :—

Puerperal Pyrexia.—One case was notified. During the previous year there were no cases notified.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—Thirteen cases occurred, one of which was fatal. These figures compare with 9 cases and 1 death in the previous year.

Poliomyelitis.—During the year 21 cases (12 males and 9 females) were confirmed as suffering from poliomyelitis. Fourteen of these had paralysis and seven were diagnosed as suffering from the disease by clinical and bacteriological findings, but did not have paralysis. There was one death (a boy aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ years). The original diagnosis was altered in 13 other cases. These figures compare with 5 confirmed cases with paralysis, 2 cases without paralysis and 1 death in the previous year.

Major outbreaks of poliomyelitis occurred in 1947, when there were 87 cases and 3 deaths, and in 1950 when there were 42 cases and 7 deaths.

The distribution of the cases in 1953 was :—

Auchinleck.....	1	Kilmaurs.....	1
Beith.....	1	Mauchline.....	2
Crosshouse.....	1	Maybole.....	1
Cumnock.....	2	Monkton.....	1
Dalry.....	1	New Cumnock.....	3
Dunure.....	1	Prestwick.....	1
Girvan.....	1	Stewarton.....	1
Glengarnock.....	1	Troon.....	1
Kilbirnie.....	1		

The age grouping is shown in the following table :—

	<i>Under</i> 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	<i>Over</i> 65
Male....	—	4	6	—	1	1	—	—	—
Female	1	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	1

Seasonal Incidence :—

	<i>No. of Cases.</i>		<i>No. of Cases.</i>
January.....	—	July.....	1
February.....	—	August.....	2
March.....	1	September.....	4
April.....	—	October.....	5
May.....	—	November.....	5
June.....	1	December.....	2

The following are the cases and deaths since 1940 :—

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>		<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1940.....	9	4	1947.....	87	3
1941.....	14	4	1948.....	6	1
1942.....	2	1	1949.....	15	1
1943.....	3	—	1950.....	42	7
1944.....	11	1	1951.....	11	1
1945.....	4	—	1952.....	7	1
1946.....	2	—	1953.....	21	1

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No case occurred of this rare disease. The last case notified was in 1934.

Dysentery.—There were 121 notified cases during the year, compared with 58 in the previous year.

There were two minor outbreaks of dysentery in Biggart Memorial Hospital Home, Prestwick, during the year. The first in January, involving 12 cases, and the second in June/July with 17 cases.

An outbreak of dysentery occurred in the Residential Nursery, Kilwinning, during May, when there were 21 cases.

During months of October, November and December an unusual number of cases of dysentery occurred in the Auchinleck/Cumnock area. There were 8 cases in October, 22 in November and 3 in December, making a total of 33 cases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—The number of cases was 2, in which there was no loss of vision. One case occurred in the previous year. The number of cases of this disease coming under notice has been maintained at a very low figure in recent years. The highest number in any year was 43 in 1933. Since 1937 the figure has always been below 20 and in the last five years has been 1 in 1952, 1 in 1951, 3 in 1950, 4 in 1949 and 4 in 1948.

Acute Influenzal and Acute Primary Pneumonia.—The numbers were of the former 4 and of the latter 314. During the previous year the numbers were 13 and 444 respectively.

Malaria.—Six cases occurred compared with four cases in 1952.

Infective Jaundice and Plague.—Neither of these diseases occurred.

Tuberculosis.—Particulars are given under another heading.

(10) Mental Health Service.

(a) **Lunacy Cases.**—The authorised Officers, appointed as approved by the Secretary of State, dealt with 65 admissions to the Mental Hospital during the year—(Males 34, Females 31).

(b) **Mental Patients under Guardianship.**—Besides being visited at least twice yearly by or on behalf of the Authorised Officer, boarded-out Mental Patients are visited quarterly by Medical Officers on behalf of the Local Authority, and they are, moreover, periodically visited by Medical Commissioners from General Board of Control, usually once annually.

The following statistics, provided by the County Welfare Officer, give particulars of County Mental Patients in the care of Private Guardians as at 31st December, 1953 :—

IN PRIVATE GUARDIANSHIP.

<i>Where Boarded.</i>	<i>With Relatives.</i>	<i>With Strangers.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Mental Defectives—			
Within the County	24	2	26
Outwith the County... ..	4	11	15
In Care of Officers of the Welfare Home, Ayr, and the Cuninghame Home, Irvine	—	23	23
Certified Lunatics—			
Within the County	4	—	4
Outwith the County... ..	1	—	1
Totals at 31st December, 1953	33	36	69
Totals at 31st December, 1952	32	32	64

(11) Work under Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulations Act.

No applications for registration under the above Act were received during the year. No licences were in force at the end of the year.

C.—PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

Seaports.—No special problems rose in connection with the administration of the Public Health (Ships) (Scotland) Regulations, 1952, at Ardrossan, Irvine and Troon. In no case was it necessary to detain the ship.

None of our three seaports is approved for the issue of deratisation certificates.

Airport.—At Prestwick Airport the work of Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens was carried out as in previous years.

No unusual problems were encountered during the year.

The scope of the work of the Medical Officer includes the administrative medical arrangements to deal with aircraft accidents on the airport or in the County area; the organisation of a First-Aid Centre within the airport; and the supervision of welfare arrangements for M.C.A. employees. The First-Aid Centre is in process of construction and a trained nurse will be on duty at all times after completion. These extra duties were proposed by the M.C.A. and agreement reached with Ayr County Council and the Department of Health.

During the year 4,931 civil and military aircraft arrived at Prestwick Airport. The passengers disembarked totalled 50,270 and 74,349 passengers landed in transit to other places.

D.—FOOD SUPPLY.

(1) Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Orders.

As in former years an average of six samples were taken from the milk supplies of the County's 1,562 designated producers and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following result :—

<i>Designation.</i>	<i>Routine Samples</i>		<i>Repeat Samples</i>		<i>No. of Producers with Three or more Consecutive Failures (Routine or Repeat).</i>
	<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>No. Failing.</i>	<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>No. Failing.</i>	
Certified.....	206	21	26	4	1
Tuberculin Tested	8227	946	1095	210	31
Standard.....	54	9	10	2	—

The incidence of samples failing to comply with the requirements of the above-mentioned Orders, namely, 12·4%, is still much higher than it should be and, when read as one with conditions prevailing on several of the farms concerned, clearly emphasises the need for increased effort on the part of many producers both in byre and dairy practice. To put it plainly, the Dairy Bye-Laws which, by this time should have become second nature to all Ayrshire farmers, are not being observed as they should be, and the Local Authority's answer to this must, of course, be "more farm inspections."

Some 1,900 such inspections made by Milk Officers during the year produced a variety of fairly obvious reasons for failure as may be expected. Several cases did arise, however (particularly where the Bacteriologist's findings showed the milk to have a low bacterial count with coliform bacilli present), which were not so easily cleared up, where, for example, methods of production were quite satisfactory, the trouble being eventually traced to the milk of one particular cow.

A Milk Officer quotes one such case where the search had been narrowed down to the milk from the first few cows milked, and in her own words "since two of these had suffered injuries to the udder, it was most surprising to find that the cause of all the trouble was an innocent-looking little heifer whose udder appeared to be perfectly sound."

It should be stated here that several producers in circumstances of a similar nature were given invaluable assistance by the advisory staff of the West of Scotland Agricultural College.

Encouraging features in the form of the new "in-can" milk cooler and the truly labour-saving milk-lift were reported from a number of farms, while on many others separate steam jets for more efficient sterilisation of milking machine clusters were fitted. Commendable enterprise was also shown by a few farmers who installed mechanical coolers despite the absence of "grid" electricity; unfortunately, these have not proved altogether satisfactory, a notable exception being the Diesel-powered direct expansion unit at Glastron Farm, Kirkmichael.

The tuberculin tested licences of three producers were suspended by reason of samples of their milk failing to meet the required bacteriological standard, while three further contraventions of a similar nature were reported to the Health Committee who issued final warnings to the producers concerned.

Biological Testing for Tuberculosis.—Forty-eight samples of milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for biological examination, 47 being the milk of non-designated producers.

In no case was a positive result obtained.

The Scottish Milk Testing Scheme.—The following is a record of the number of failures recorded during the past three years on Ayrshire farm supplies tested at the various Creameries operating within the Scottish Milk Testing Scheme :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Daily Platform Test Failures.</i>	<i>Weekly Resazurin Test Failures.</i>	<i>No. of Producers involved in Four or more Failures.</i>
1951	82	120	3
1952	175	81	3
1953	207	91	4

Particularly significant is the continued rise in the number of Daily Platform Test failures with, of course, a corresponding increase in the amount of milk actually returned to producers as being unfit for the liquid milk market. While in odd cases these rejections were challenged by a farmer where, for example, "smell and flavour" were not very pronounced, it would appear that liability was generally accepted since the Milk Officer usually found that "milk was not properly cooled," "a few gallons had been held over from the previous day," "a cow was found to have an injured teat," "milk from newly-calved cows had been included in the bulk supply too soon," "a large number of cows were drying-off," etc. As mentioned, cases did arise where failure was not traced to a satisfactory conclusion, no fault being found with the condition of milking equipment and the producer affirming that there had been no deviation from the usual methods of production or the normal feeding practice.

Rejected milk had usually been disposed of or had gone sour by the time the farm was visited, but one Milk Officer was able to intercept a consignment at a British Road Services Depot on the day of rejection and was of opinion that, if this could have been done more often, investigation at the farm would have been simplified.

Only two notifications of improperly cooled milk were received, both in respect of the same non-designated producer's supply, the temperature on each occasion being 80 degrees Fah. on arrival at the Creamery. While the installation of a surface water cooler in lieu of the shallow "bines" previously used replaced what was probably a lone relic of bygone days, such a step must surely be regarded as an intermediate one only, since it has long been obvious that the ordinary water cooler can not ensure efficient all the year round cooling.

(2) Ice Cream.

The administration of the Ice Cream Regulations is fully dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector in his Report. By the end of the year 90 premises were registered for manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream, 130 for storage and sale, 2 for manufacture and storage, 1 for manufacture only and 1 for sale only. In addition, 154 vehicles were registered as suitable for retailing ice cream.

(3) Meat and Other Foods—Clean Food.

These questions are dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector in his Report.

(4) Food Hygiene.

The Sanitary Inspector deals with this in his Report.

(5) Food Poisoning.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred in Kilmaurs in June following a Sunday School trip to Saltecoats. There were approximately 30 cases with acute symptoms. These received medical treatment on their return to Kilmaurs. By the following day all had recovered and no further cases had appeared. Investigation indicated that the responsible agent was present in sandwiches prepared a day or two before by members of the organising party. This was confirmed by bacteriological examination. Contamination probably occurred because of the undue length of time which had elapsed between the preparation and consumption of the sandwiches.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred among the guests at a wedding party in Glasgow on 18th July. Twelve of these came from Dalry and ten were affected in varying degree approximately seven hours after consuming the meal. Three were admitted to Ayrshire Central Hospital with acute symptoms. The others were treated at home and responded fairly quickly. The three cases were isolated in hospital for a prolonged period on account of the fact that they continued to excrete the responsible organism. All were eventually discharged well.

Another incidence of food poisoning occurred among some of the guests attending a wedding party at Motherwell in December. Two Ayrshire cases attending as guests were involved with the usual symptoms 24 hours afterwards. Both recovered within a few days. Bacteriological investigation confirmed that tinned stewed steak was the offending substance.

E.—MISCELLANEOUS.

(1) National Assistance Act, 1948.

Mr. Brown, County Welfare Officer, reports as follows :—

(Section 21).—Provision of Part III. accommodation under Section 21 of the Act is the responsibility of the County Welfare Committee.

Residential accommodation for persons who by reason of age, infirmity or other circumstances are in need of care and attention is provided in Cuninghame Home, Irvine, and Ayr Welfare Home and Hospital, Ayr. Cuninghame Home is under the management of the Committee of Management for Ayrshire Northern Hospitals and Ayr Welfare Home and Hospital is administered by a Joint Committee consisting of representatives of Ayr County Council and Ayr Town Council.

Lainshaw House, Stewarton, was opened for the reception of residents in February, 1953, and Birkenward House, Skelmorlie, in April, 1953. At the end of the year there were 10 old people accommodated in Birkenward House and 26 in Lainshaw House. There is, in addition, an Old People's Home at Largs, accommodating six females.

(Section 29).—Welfare Services under this Section of the Act are also provided by the County Welfare Committee. As permitted under Section 30 of the Act, Ayr County Welfare Committee have appointed as its Agents the Ayrshire Mission to the Deaf and Dumb to promote the welfare of Deaf and Dumb within the area, and the Joint Committee for the domiciliary care of the Blind in South-West Scotland to carry out their functions on behalf of blind persons.

A Scheme has been approved by the Secretary of State for the welfare of crippled and handicapped persons, but at present no services are available for the exercise of powers under the Scheme.

(Section 37).—There are no registered homes for disabled or old persons within the area, controlled by voluntary organisations.

(Section 47).—Under this Section two applications (respecting the same person) have been made to the Court for removal and detention of persons requiring care and attention.

(Section 48).—Before admission to Part III. Accommodation of a resident, arrangements are generally made with relatives to safeguard any moveable property of the applicant, but if no such suitable provision can be made, steps are taken by the Local Authority to mitigate the loss or damage.

During the year there has been no occasion to deal with property in respect of persons admitted to Hospital, etc.

(Section 50).—Where a person has died or is found dead within the area, and there are no relatives or other person making arrangements for disposal of the body, the County Sanitary Department arrange the burial. During the year this Department has made burial arrangements in a number of cases.

(2) Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act.

There were two registered Nursing Homes which were visited periodically. One has accommodation for 18 medical, surgical and maternity cases, while the other admits chronic sick cases only, having accommodation for 22.

(3) Health Education.

Dr. Stephen Young, Lecturer of the Scottish Council for Health Education, visited Ayrshire Schools in April, 1953. Illustrated health talks were given in 14 schools and 1,286 children attended.

In addition, Dr. A. G. Mearns, Medical Adviser, addressed the Parent Teachers' Association of Ardrossan Academy in March and the Troon Women's Citizens' Association in November on health subjects. Members of the Medical Staff gave talks to various Organisations in Troon, Tarbolton, Saltcoats and Ayr. The subjects of their addresses were "Accidents in the Home"; "General Health" and "Tuberculosis."

(4) Blood Transfusion.

Two visits were paid by the West of Scotland Blood Transfusion Unit to the Saltcoats area, where they were accommodated in the County Clinic premises at Campbell Avenue. One of these visits was in February, when blood was withdrawn from 76 donors. The second was in August when there were 88 donors.

(5) Chiropody Service.

The local branches of the Red Cross Society and the local Old People's Welfare Committees have organised a Chiropody Service at Galston, Largs, Kilwinning, Beith and Crosshouse. The Largs service is controlled entirely by the Red Cross, and the services at Kilwinning, Beith and Crosshouse by the local Old People's Committees. At Galston the scheme is organised by the Red Cross, working in close contact with the Welfare Committee. These services run by the Voluntary Associations have the approval of the Local Authority who give an annual sum to each area.

(6) Accidents in the Home.

During the year 1953, 72 accidents in the home were reported by District Nurses. Thirty-three males were affected and thirty-nine females.

The largest incidence was in the 1-2 age group, where 20 accidents occurred, closely followed by the 2-5 age group with 18. In the adult groups there were no accidents between 15 and 30 years; the largest number occurred over the age of 65 (6). Among adults, all but one case were females.

Scalds (37) were responsible for 51.5% of the accidents and burns (28) for 38.8%. The remaining 7 cases were occasioned mostly by falls, involving fractured bones in 2 cases (both over 65), and cuts or bruises in the remainder; an exception in this group was a girl aged 3 who caught her hand in a wringer.

There were 2 fatal accidents—one due to night clothes being set alight and the other because of scalding. Both died in hospital. 27.5% of accidents (20) were serious and 69.5% (50) were slight.

In only 4 instances was the mother employed in an outside occupation and of these in only one case was she not present in the house at the time of the accident. In another where the child was in the charge of a grandmother, an accident occurred while the child (aged 9) was alone in the house. In this case the child's clothing was ignited by a gas fire while she was preparing a meal. She required skin grafts following extensive burns.

The type of home did not appear to reduce the occurrence of accidents. Half of them (36) occurred in good homes, 37.5% (27) in average homes, and 12.5% (9) in poor homes.

The kitchen would appear to be the most dangerous room in the house, 38.8% (28) of the accidents occurring there. The living-room, 27.7% (20) ranks next in importance, followed by the scullery with 15.2% (11), a total of 81.7% (59).

This outstanding feature of the survey was that 90% of the accidents in the home during the year were due to scalds and burns.

Scalds, which were responsible for more than half the reported cases, were in the main produced by children spilling hot tea over themselves. One of the fatal cases occurred by this means. This frequent accident could in large measures be prevented if parents would take the trouble to keep vessels containing hot liquids out of the reach of young children by the adequate use of fireguards or by keeping them out of the kitchen or scullery while meals are being prepared; the presence of children in the kitchen at such times is dangerous for them and distracting for the mother who may herself be the victim.

Burns accounted for more than one-third of all cases. The second fatal case was caused by the child's nightdress being set alight by an unprotected fire. The result of this type of accident is always serious and often fatal. It is preventable by the constant use of a fireguard in the home. In this connection unguarded electric fires are especially dangerous for young children. This type of heating is usually more accessible to them and there is the added danger of electric shock. They should be guarded and young children not left in a room with such a fire unless an adult is present.

Lastly, it should be stressed that young children should never be left alone in the house even for a short period.

Details of Accidents Occurring in Ayr County (Landward Area and Small Burghs) During 1953.

43

Age of Person to whom Accident Occurred.

		Under 1 Year.	1-2 Years.	2-5 Years.	5-10 Years.	10-15 Years.	15-40 Years.	40-65 Years.	65 Years and Over.	Total.
Total Number of Accidents		6	20	18	13	2	5	2	6	72
Sex—										
Males	...	4	13	8	5	2	1	—	—	33
Females	...	2	7	10	8	—	4	2	6	39
Mother in Employment		—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	4
Mother Not in Employment	...	6	20	17	9	2	—	—	—	54
Type of Home—										
Good	...	3	11	8	2	1	4	2	5	36
Average	...	2	7	7	10	—	1	—	—	27
Poor	...	1	2	3	1	1	—	—	1	9
Type of Accident—										
Burn	...	1	9	8	5	—	3	1	1	28
Scald	...	4	10	8	8	2	1	1	3	37
Injury (including Fracture)	...	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	2	7
Result of Accident—										
Fatal	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Serious	...	—	2	7	5	—	2	1	3	20
Slight	...	6	17	11	7	2	3	1	3	50
No. of Cases in which Permanent Deformity or Injury Resulted		—	1	3	2	—	—	—	2	8
No. of Cases Removed to Hospital		—	4	8	3	—	—	—	2	17

Ayr County (Landward and Small Burghs), Year 1953.

No. of Accidents Classified by Size of House and Number of Inmates.

<i>No. of Inmates</i>	<i>No. of Rooms in House.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 or over.
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	1	—	3	—	1	—	—
3	2	11	1	2	—	—	—
4	2	4	1	3	—	—	—
5	1	2	4	5	1	—	—
6	1	2	1	5	—	—	—
7	—	2	—	4	—	1	—
8	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
9	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
10 or over.	—	—	—	2	2	—	—

F.—GENERAL SANITATION.

General sanitation is dealt with fully in the Reports of the County Sanitary Inspector and the Sanitary Inspectors of the Burghs of Ardrossan, Cumnock, Darvel, Galston, Girvan, Irvine, Kilwinning, Largs, Maybole, Newmilns, Prestwick, Stevenston, Stewarton and Troon.

TABLE I.
CAUSES OF DEATH—LANDWARD AREA AND SMALL BURGHs.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>County Landward.</i>	<i>Ardsman.</i>	<i>Cumnock.</i>	<i>Dart.</i>	<i>Galeon.</i>	<i>Girvan.</i>	<i>Irvine.</i>	<i>Kilwinning.</i>	<i>Large.</i>	<i>Maybole.</i>	<i>Neumilin.</i>	<i>Prestick.</i>	<i>Salicola.</i>	<i>Stenston.</i>	<i>Stewarton.</i>	<i>Troon.</i>	<i>Total—Landward Area and small Burghs.</i>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	14	1	1		1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	3		1	35
Tuberculosis, other forms.....	12						12							1			6
Syphilis and its sequelae.....																	2
Typhoid Fever (including Paratyphoid)...																	
Dysentery, all forms.....																	
Scarlet Fever and Streptococcal Sore Throat																	
Diphtheria.....																	4
Whooping Cough.....	4																1
Meningococcal Infections.....	1									1							1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1																1
Measles.....	3																4
Other Infections and Parasitic Diseases.....	206	15	9	2	8	7	27	14	25	9	6	23	22	15	6	20	420
Malignant Neoplasms.....	4						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	22
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms.....	10	2	1			2	12		1	1			1			1	9
Diabetes Mellitus.....	1						1		3			1					18
Anaemia.....	11			1		1	1										
Other General Diseases.....										8	18	22	24	17	6	19	428
Vascular Lesions affecting Central Nervous System.....	222	7	6	4	10	11	21	8	25								1
Non-Meningococcal Meningitis.....	1						3		4			1	2	3			47
Other Diseases of Nervous System.....	29	2			1				1			1					4
Rheumatic Fever.....	2							1			1	2		1	4		31
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.....	16	2	1														
Arteriosclerotic and Degenerative Heart Disease.....	355	28	26	22	13	18	30	23	74	3	12	70	42	16	11	61	804
Other Diseases of Heart.....	24	1			1	1	1	3	3	2	1	4	1	4	2	2	48
Hypertension with Heart Disease.....	24	1	1		3	2	1	1	3	2	3	2	6	1	1	3	54
Hypertension without Heart Disease.....	10		1			1	1	1	1	2		3	2	1	1	2	24
Other Circulatory Disease.....	25	1	1		1	3	1	3	6	2		2	1	1		7	49
Indiscreta.....	2	1		1					1	1		1	2	1		3	7
Pneumonia (except of newborn).....	27	1	1	1	2	3	3		2	4	1	6	2	1		2	47
Bronchitis.....	25		1	4	4	3	3	2									57
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	19	1	1		1	1	2					6		1		2	34
<i>Carry forward.....</i>	1040	63	50	41	46	56	104	59	151	36	44	147	113	67	28	117	2162

TABLE I.—Continued.
CAUSES OF DEATH—LANDWARD AREA AND SMALL BURGHS—Continued.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	County Landward.	Ardsrahan.	Cumnock.	Darvel.	Galtston.	Girvan.	Irvine.	Kilbucking.	Largy.	Maybole.	Neumtins.	Prestwick.	Salcears.	Stevenston.	Stewarton.	Troon.	Total— Landward Area and Small Burghs.
<i>Brought forward.</i>	1040	63	50	41	46	56	104	59	151	36	44	147	113	67	28	117	2162
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.....	10	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	10	1	1	19
Appendicitis.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia.....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	15
Gastritis and Duodenitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (except of newborn).....	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera of Liver.....	7	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	10
Other Diseases of Liver.....	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	11
Other Digestive Diseases.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	10	5	—	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	7	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Other Diseases of Genito Urinary System.....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	17
Puerperal Sepsis, including Post-Abortive Sepsis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other Puerperal Causes.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Locomotion	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	7
Congenital Malformations.....	17	—	1	—	1	1	6	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	29
Birth Injuries, Post-Natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis.....	16	4	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	31
Pneumonia of newborn.....	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6
Diarrhoea of newborn.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infections of the newborn.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy	21	4	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	2	1	1	3	3	2	—	43
Senility.....	16	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	32
Cause Ill-defined and Unknown.....	14	1	1	2	—	3	5	—	2	—	1	1	2	1	—	3	35
Suicide.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	2	3	1	1	—	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Other Road Transport Accidents.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Violence.....	40	1	4	1	—	3	3	1	1	1	1	7	4	—	1	3	71
ALL CAUSES.....	1,248	82	56	47	48	78	132	65	167	45	54	160	131	81	34	135	2,672

TABLE II.

Births and Deaths in the County and Burghs.

Area.	Estimated Population.	Area in Acres.	Deaths at Sub-joined Ages.						Mortality from Sub-joined Causes.																								
			Live-Births.	Still-Births.	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 Years and Upwards.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric & Paratyphoid Fevers.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Maternal Causes.		Digestive Diseases.		Tuber- culous Diseases.		Pneumonia.	Diseases of Respiratory System.	Influenza.	Cancer.	Diseases of Nervous System.	Diseases of Circulatory System.	Violence.	All Other Certified Causes.	Uncertified Causes.	
																		Puerperal Fever.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Diarrhoea.	Other Digestive Diseases.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.										
County—	125,212	706,470	2253	58	1248	73	12	14	1149	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	1	5	38	14	2	29	44	2206	252	454	53	128	14	—	
Landward	9,072	730	201	4	82	12	1	1	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	15	9	33	3	15	1	—
Burghs—	4,790	259	123	6	56	1	1	1	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	9	6	30	4	2	1	—
Ardrossan.....	3,265	453	51	1	47	1	—	—	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	1	8	4	22	1	3	2	—
Cumnock	4,628	191	81	2	48	2	—	—	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	4	7	11	25	3	15	3	—
Glasgow	15,052	1,783	302	4	132	7	2	—	123	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	5	—	27	24	34	3	25	5	—
Irvine	6,831	440	138	4	65	2	—	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	5	—	14	8	32	2	12	1	—
Kilwinning.....	7,320	610	113	2	167	2	1	—	164	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	2	—	25	29	87	4	12	1	—
Larks	4,843	392	112	—	45	5	1	—	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	4	—	9	8	11	3	8	—	—
Maybole.....	4,137	636	65	1	54	3	1	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	—	6	18	17	1	5	1	—
Newmilns.....	11,299	1,039	237	5	169	4	2	—	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	12	1	23	23	83	10	9	—	—
Prestwick	13,387	464	290	6	181	7	1	—	123	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	2	22	26	55	8	6	2	—
Saltcoats	9,457	860	160	5	81	5	1	—	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	15	22	23	2	9	2	—
Stevenson.....	3,240	381	44	—	34	2	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	6	6	16	2	3	—	—
Stewarton	9,875	2,995	132	2	135	1	1	—	133	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	3	2	20	19	70	4	8	—	—
Troon										—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
County-Landward and Small Burghs	238,912	718,190	4,405	102	2572	135	23	20	2394	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	2	10	66	35	5	53	91	7,420	476	1,010	103	253	35	—	—

TABLE III.

Density of Population, Birth Rate, Infantile and Other Death Rates.

Death Rate per 1,000 from																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Area.	The Principal Zymotic Diseases.										Digestive Diseases.			Tuberculous Diseases.		Diseases of Nervous System.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
	Persons to the Acre.	Birth Rate.	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1000 births including still-births).	Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 Births, including Still-Births).	Deaths under 1 Year of Age per 1,000 Births.	All Causes.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea.		Other Digestive Diseases.		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pneumonia.	Diseases of Respiratory System.	Influenza.	Cancer.	Diseases of Nervous System.	Diseases of Circulatory System.	Violence.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										

TABLE IV.

Deaths at Different Ages and Percentages of Total Deaths.

	<i>Total Deaths.</i>	<i>Deaths under 5.</i>	<i>Deaths 5 and under 15.</i>	<i>Deaths 15 and under 65.</i>	<i>Deaths 65 and Upwards.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>			
						<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5-15.</i>	<i>15-65.</i>	<i>65 and Upwards.</i>
County—									
Landward.	1248	85	14	386	763	6·8	1·1	30·9	61·2
Burghs—									
Ardrossan.	82	13	1	24	44	15·8	1·2	29·3	53·7
Cumnock..	56	1	2	18	35	1·8	3·6	32·1	62·5
Darvel.....	47	1	...	13	33	2·1	...	27·7	70·2
Galston....	48	2	...	15	31	4·2	...	31·3	64·5
Girvan.....	78	8	...	18	52	10·3	.	23·1	66·6
Irvine.....	132	9	...	47	76	6·8	...	35·6	57·6
Kilwinning	65	2	...	23	40	3·1	...	35·4	61·5
Largs	167	3	...	37	127	1·8	...	22·2	76·0
Maybole...	45	6	1	9	29	13·3	2·2	20·0	64·5
Newmilns.	54	4	...	7	43	7·4	...	13·0	79·6
Prestwick.	169	6	...	39	124	3·5	...	23·1	73·4
Saltcoats..	131	8	...	45	78	6·1	...	34·4	59·5
Stevenston	81	6	1	29	45	7·4	1·2	35·8	55·6
Stewarton.	34	2	1	11	20	5·9	2·9	32·4	58·8
Troon.....	135	2	...	35	98	1·5	...	25·9	72·6
County— Landward and Small Burghs ...	2572	158	20	756	1638	6·1	0·8	29·4	63·7

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality.

Infant Mortality.						Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Births.
(1) CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS :—							
Under 1 Week	...	...	...	...	...	85	19.3
1 Week and under 4 Weeks	...	...	...	...	...	8	1.8
4 Weeks and under 3 Months	...	...	...	...	...	23	5.2
3 Months and under 6 Months	...	...	...	...	...	14	3.2
6 Months and under 12 Months	...	...	...	...	...	5	1.1
(2) CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO CAUSES OF DEATH.							
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.7
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Non-Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	19	4.3
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	5	1.1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	24	5.5
Birth Injuries, Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	31	7.0
Other Diseases peculiar to early infancy	...	...	...	...	...	43	9.8
Violence	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	9	2.0

TABLE VI.

Infectious Diseases—Year 1953.

Number of Cases coming to the Knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health and accepted by him as suffering from disease stated.

	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria and Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Tuberculosis.		Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Acute Primary Pneumonia.	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.	Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	Acute Infective Jaundice.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Acute Polioencephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Whooping Cough.	
County—	—	—	—	22	119	—	1	—	—	90	10	—	1	1	1	4	50	163	1	12	—	17	—	—	12	390
Landward.....	—	—	—	2	20	—	—	—	—	15	1	—	—	1	—	2	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	29
Burghs—	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	11	3	—	—	1	—	4	9	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Ardrrossan.....	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cumnock.....	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Darvel.....	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Galston.....	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Girvan.....	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	1	4	25	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Irvine.....	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	22	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Kilwinning.....	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Largs.....	—	—	—	2	36	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Maybole.....	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Newmilns.....	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	32	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Prestwick.....	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	4	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Saltcoats.....	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	13	1	—	—	—	—	4	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Stevenston.....	—	—	—	1	11	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	66
Stewarton.....	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Troon.....	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
County Landward and Small Burghs	—	—	—	30	288	—	1	—	—	180	25	1	1	2	6	121	314	4	15	—	21	—	—	—	3	649

TABLE VII.

Principal Infectious Diseases Confirmed Monthly in the County and Small Burghs.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May.</i>	<i>June.</i>	<i>July.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total Cases.</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membraneous Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	16	9	3	5	23	10	12	1	2	10	23	7	121
Erysipelas	3	2	—	1	3	2	2	3	3	1	7	3	30
Scarlet Fever	14	19	20	23	27	19	25	20	27	23	37	34	288
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid, Paratyphoid, and Continued Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	2	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	13
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	5	5	3	21
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	13	16	16	22	13	11	14	8	11	18	21	17	180
Non-Pulmonary	2	1	1	2	1	7	1	2	2	—	3	3	25
TOTAL	50	49	43	53	70	49	55	35	51	61	98	67	681

TABLE VIII.

Infectious Diseases—Hospitals and Cases Isolated in them—County and Small Burghs.

<i>Hospitals.</i>	<i>Smallpox.</i>	<i>Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.</i>	<i>Erysipelas.</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	<i>Acute Polio- myelitis.</i>	<i>Typhoid, Paratyphoid and Continued Fevers.</i>	<i>Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.</i>	<i>Cerebro- Spinal Fever.</i>	<i>Dysentery</i>	<i>Total Admitted</i>
Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine	—	—	6	49	22	1	1	12	82	173
Heathfield Hospital, Ayr...	—	—	—	288	—	—	—	—	1	289
Totals.....	—	—	6	337	22	1	1	12	83	462
Cases in which Diagnosis is Confirmed	—	—	4	269	21	1	1	12	81	389

TABLE IX.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Return of Cases of Infectious Diseases Confirmed during the year ended 31st December, 1953, by Ages.

Disease.	At all Ages.	At Age—Years.							Cases Removed to Hospital.	Cases not Removed to Hospital.
		Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	13	4	6	2	—	1	—	—	12	1
Chickenpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever (Undulant)...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	121	8	52	27	13	14	3	4	81	40
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas.....	30	—	1	1	—	7	14	7	4	26
Jaundice, Acute Infective.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria.....	6	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	5	1
Measles.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Plague.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal...	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	3	1
Pneumonia, Acute Primary.....	314	36	65	44	24	53	52	40	278	30
Pneumonia (not notifiable)....	15	1	9	2	—	—	1	2	14	1
Pollomyelitis, Acute.....	21	1	6	11	2	1	—	1	21	—
Puerperal Fever.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	—	—	101	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever.....	288	—	—	173	12	2	—	—	269	19
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid "A".....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid "B".....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Typhus Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	549	59	296	190	—	3	1	—	—	—
Total.....	1366	111	535	451	50	86	72	55	710	656

Number of Cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, and accepted by him as suffering from the stated Disease.

TABLE X.

TUBERCULOSIS—STATISTICAL RETURNS, 1953.

1.—Return of Cases of Tuberculosis Notified during the year.

	Number of Cases notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.										Cases notified in a previous year and removed to Hospital for the first time during 1953	Cases removed to Hospital.
	Age Groups.											
	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards	Total.		
Respiratory ...	Males ...	1	3	2	5	28	12	8	11	2	59	4
	Females ...	—	1	5	7	53	26	10	6	1	91	8
	Total ...	1	4	7	12	81	38	18	17	3	150	12
Non-Respiratory ...	Males ...	1	1	1	2	4	3	—	—	—	7	1
	Females ...	—	2	—	—	7	—	3	2	—	9	—
	Total ...	1	3	1	2	11	3	3	2	—	16	1
Respiratory and Non-Respiratory	Males ...	2	4	3	7	32	15	8	11	2	66	5
	Females ...	—	3	5	7	60	26	13	8	1	100	8
	Total ...	2	7	8	14	92	41	21	19	3	166	13

TABLE X.—Continued.

2.—Return of Cases notified during the year in which Diagnosis of Tuberculosis has been confirmed.

		<i>Number of Cases Diagnosed as Suffering from Tuberculosis.</i>									
		<i>Age Groups.</i>									
		<i>Under 1.</i>	<i>1 and under 5.</i>	<i>5 and under 10.</i>	<i>10 and under 15.</i>	<i>15 and under 25.</i>	<i>25 and under 35.</i>	<i>35 and under 45.</i>	<i>45 and under 65.</i>	<i>65 and upwards.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Respiratory ...	Males ...	1	2	2	5	28	12	8	11	2	71
	Females ...	—	1	5	7	53	26	10	6	1	109
	Total ...	1	3	7	12	81	38	19	17	3	180
Non-Respiratory ...	Males ...	1	—	1	2	4	3	—	—	—	11
	Females ...	—	2	—	—	7	—	3	2	—	14
	Total ...	1	2	1	2	11	3	3	2	—	25
Respiratory and Non-Respiratory	Males ...	2	2	3	7	32	15	8	11	2	82
	Females ...	—	3	5	7	60	26	13	8	1	123
	Total ...	2	5	8	14	92	41	21	19	3	205

TABLE X.—Continued.

3.—Return showing the Number of Cases with their Home Residence in the Area who received Treatment in Sanatoria or other Institutions during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

		Number of Patients.					
		(a) <i>In Institutions on 1st January.</i>	(b) <i>Admitted during the year.</i>	(c) <i>Discharged during the year.</i>	<i>Died in the Institutions.†</i>		(f) <i>In Institutions on 31st December.</i>
					(d)	(e)	
Respiratory ...	... { Males ...	91	97	93	6	3	86
	... { Females ...	106	118	105	2	4	113
	... { Males ...	6	10	9	—	—	7
	... { Females ...	11	10	10	—	—	11
Non-Respiratory ...	... { Males ...	10	11	14	—	1	6
	... { Females ...	11	10	15	—	—	6
	... { Males ...	12	2	10	—	—	4
	... { Females ...	6	2	4	1	—	3
Total ...		253	260	260	9	8	236

† Column (d) shows those who were in final residence 28 days or over. Column (e) shows those who were in final residence under 28 days.

† All patients of 15 years and upwards classed as Adults.

TABLE X.—Continued.

4.—Return of Number of Persons Resident in the Area at 31st December, 1953, who were known to be Suffering from Tuberculosis. (Only Cases in which a diagnosis of Tuberculosis has been confirmed have been included. Persons in Sanatoria, etc., are included in the figures for the Area in which they have their Home Residence.)

		Number of Cases.									
		Age Groups.									
		Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Total.
RESPIRATORY. ^a											
1.	Sputum or other material examined and Tubercle Bacilli found ...	—	—	1	6	104	153	87	93	5	449
	{ Males			2	5	176	244	84	23	1	535
	{ Females			1	13	50	35	19	10	3	131
2.	Sputum or other material examined and Tubercle Bacilli never found ...	—	—	3	4	65	52	13	5	—	142
	{ Males			13	12	9	4	—	4	—	50
	{ Females			13	13	11	1	3	3	—	46
3.	Sputum or other material not examined ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Males			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Females			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	1	9	33	53	415	489	206	138	9	1353
NON-RESPIRATORY. ^b											
1.	Abdominal ...	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	5
	{ Males			1	—	5	2	—	—	—	8
	{ Females			—	—	—	—	2	—	—	23
2.	Splen ...	—	2	—	1	12	5	2	1	—	20
	{ Males			1	—	7	4	4	3	—	30
	{ Females			—	5	5	1	3	2	—	25
3.	Bones and Joints (exclusive of Spine)	—	—	2	2	10	8	2	1	—	9
	{ Males			6	—	1	1	—	—	—	13
	{ Females			1	3	5	—	1	1	—	—
4.	Superficial Glands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Males			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Females			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Lupus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Males			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Females			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Other Parts or Organs...	—	4	7	3	4	7	2	2	—	29
	{ Males			6	4	8	9	2	3	1	35
	{ Females			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	10	29	21	65	480	529	223	161	11	1550
RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY		1	19	62	74	480	529	223	161	11	1550

^a Persons suffering from Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis included under "Respiratory" only. ^b Persons suffering from Multiple Lesions classified according to the site of the Principal Lesion. No case included more than once.

Note.—A patient is retained on the register in the case of Respiratory Tuberculosis for at least five years, and in the case of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis for at least three years, after complete freedom from symptoms and absence of signs of tuberculosis, except such as are compatible with a healed lesion or lesions.

TABLE X.—Continued.

5.—Return of Number of Persons who died from Tuberculosis in the Area during the year ended 31st December, 1953, with particulars as to the period elapsing between Notification and Death and between Discharge from an Institution and Death.

	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Number of Persons who Died from Tuberculosis—	21	14	1	4
Of whom—				
Not notified or notified only at or after Death	2	1	—	2
Notified less than 1 month before Death ...	1	2	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 Months before Death...	1	1	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 Months before Death...	—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 Months before Death...	2	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 Years before Death ...	2	1	—	1
Notified over 2 Years ...	13	9	1	1
Total	21	14	1	4
Number who Died within 28 days after Discharge from an Institution ...	1	—	—	—
Number who Died more than 28 days after Discharge from an Institution ...	8	8	—	—

TABLE XI.

OUT-PATIENT CLINICS.

<i>Place and Premises.</i>	<i>Day.</i>	<i>Hour.</i>
SCHOOL CLINICS—		
Ayr—King Street.....	Every Monday.	3 p.m.
Dalry—Higher Grade School	First and Third Fridays.	2 p.m.
Galston—Henrietta Street..	Second and Fourth Mondays.	2 p.m.
Girvan—Wesley Place.....	Second and Fourth Fridays.	2 p.m.
Hurlford—Academy Street.	First and Third Mondays.	2 p.m.
Irvine—Bank Street.....	First and Third Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Kilbirnie—Nurses' Home...	First and Third Mondays.	2 p.m.
Kilmarnock—Green Street..	Every Wednesday.	10 a.m.
Maybole—Carrick Home.....	First and Third Friday.	2 p.m.
Prestwick—Glenburn P.S....	First and Third Fridays.	2 p.m.
Saltcoats—Campbell Avenue	Every Friday.	2 p.m.
Troon—Tinnion Nursing Home.....	Second and Fourth Fridays.	2 p.m.
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES—		
Annbank—4 Mauchline Rd.	Second and Fourth Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Ardrossan—Castlecaigs, Glasgow Street.....	Every Thursday.	2 p.m.
Auchinleck—97 Back Roger- ton Crescent.....	Second and Fourth Fridays.	2 p.m.
Beith—Strand.....	First and Third Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Catrine—Brown's Institute	First and Third Mondays.	2.30 p.m.
Coylton—Claude Hamilton Memorial Hall.....	First and Third Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Crosshouse—Old School Building.....	First and Third Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Cumnock—Millbank.....	Every Wednesday.	2.30 p.m.
Dalmellington—Church Hall	Every Thursday.	2 p.m.
Dalry—James Street.....	Second and Fourth Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Darvel—Lesser Town Hall	Second and Fourth Fridays.	2 p.m.
Dreghorn—Local Welfare Office.....	Second and Fourth Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Drongan—Public Hall.....	First and Third Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Galston—Henrietta Street...	First and Third Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Girvan—Wesley Place.....	First and Third Tuesdays.	2 p.m.
Hurlford—Academy Street.	Second and Fourth Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Irvine— Bank Street.....	Alternate Thursdays.	2.30 p.m.
Waterside Street.....	Alternate Thursdays.	2.30 p.m.
Kilbirnie—Nurses' Home...	Every Wednesday.	2 p.m.
Kilwinning—Ladyford Av..	Every Wednesday.	2 p.m.
Kilmaurs—J.S. School.....	First and Third Fridays.	2 p.m.
Largs—Moorburn Road.....	Second and Fourth Mondays.	2 p.m.
Lugar—The Institute.....	Second and Fourth Mondays.	2 p.m.
Mauchline—Parish Church Hall.....	First and Third Thursdays.	2 p.m.
Maybole—Carrick Home....	Second and Fourth Tuesdays.	2.30 p.m.
Monkton—Carvick-Webster Hall.....	First and Third Mondays.	2 p.m.
Muirkirk— Masonic Hall.....	First Monday.	2 p.m.
Kames Institute.....	Third Monday.	2 p.m.

TABLE XI.—*Continued.*
OUT-PATIENT CLINICS—*Continued.*

<i>Place and Premises.</i>	<i>Day.</i>	<i>Hour.</i>
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES—		
New Cumnock—		
Craigbank Hall....	Second and Fourth Thursdays.	2 p.m.
Old People's Welfare Club Rooms.....	First and Third Thursdays.	2 p.m.
Newmilns—Lady Flora's Institute.....	Second and Fourth Thursdays.	2 p.m.
Patna—Parish Church Hall	Second and Fourth Mondays.	2 p.m.
Prestwick—Youth Centre, Templerigg Street.....	Every Tuesday.	2 p.m.
Rankinston—Mission Hall..	Second and Fourth Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Saltcoats—Campbell Avenue	Every Tuesday.	2 p.m.
Stevenston—War Memorial Institute.....	Every Monday.	2 p.m.
Stewarton—35 Main Street	Second and Fourth Mondays.	2 p.m.
Tarbolton—Infant School...	First and Third Wednesdays.	2 p.m.
Troon—Tinnion Nursing Home.....	Every Thursday.	2 p.m.
West Kilbride—Masonic Hall	Second and Fourth Fridays.	2 p.m.
ANTE-NATAL CLINICS—		
Annbank—4 Mauchline Road.....	Every Wednesday.	2.30 p.m.
Cumnock—Millbank.....	Every Tuesday.	2.45 p.m.
Irvine—Bank Street.....	Every Monday	2 p.m.
Kilbirnie—Nurses' Home...	Every Friday.	10.30 a.m.
Largs—Moorburn Road.....	Every Monday.	10 a.m.
Maybole—Carrick Home....	Every Thursday.	10.30 a.m.
Saltcoats—Campbell Avenue	Every Wednesday.	10.30 a.m.
Troon—Tinnion Nursing Home.....	Every Tuesday.	9.30 a.m.
DENTAL CLINICS (for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children)—		
Annbank—4 Mauchline Rd.	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
Cumnock—Millbank.....	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
Irvine—Bank Street.....	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
Kilwinning—Ladyford Ave.	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
Maybole—Carrick Home....	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
Troon—Tinnion Nursing Home.....	First and Third Saturdays.	9.30 a.m.- 12 noon.
ORTHODONTIC CLINIC—		
Ayr—King Street.....	Every Friday.	9 a.m.- 12 noon.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

1953—1954

(Year ended 31st July, 1954)

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I.—STAFF.

Reference is made to List of Staff on page 4.

II.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population of the Area (at 31st December, 1953, as
estimated by the Registrar-General) 324,600

Number of Schools—

(a) Primary Schools under Education Authority ... 93

(b) Secondary Schools under Education Authority... 61

(c) (i) Special Schools 5

(ii) Special Classes in Ordinary Schools ... —

(iii) Nursery Schools 5

(d) In receipt of Grant from Education Authority
under Medical Inspection 1

Average Number of Children on the Registers ... 54,595

Average Number of Children in Attendance... 50,536

III.—SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS.

The Medical Officers on their visits to schools inspect the sanitation and any matters requiring attention are brought to the notice of the appropriate Official. In general the cleanliness of the schools was found to be satisfactory.

IV.—ORGANISATION AND TREATMENT.

School Nurses attend at the medical inspection and subsequently are supplied with a list of the cases to be followed up at home. They keep a register compiled from these lists and report where treatment is given and the condition remedied. The School Nurses also visit the schools between the School Medical Officers inspections. The number of children visited at home during the year was 5,199, and the total number of visits paid was 5,976.

(a) System of School Medical Inspection and Arrangements for Following up.

The pupils examined at routine inspections were :—

- (1) All entrants and children not previously subjected in school to detailed routine inspections.
- (2) Children born in 1944.
- (3) Children born in 1940.
- (4) Children born in 1937.
- (5) Children born in 1946 (visual acuity and hearing only).

Before every routine visit to a school the Head Teacher is asked to produce for special medical examination any pupil who appears to suffer from any physical or mental disability and who has not received or is not receiving appropriate attention.

All children found defective at previous inspections were also re-examined.

Routine and special medical examinations of pupils attending schools in Ayr and Kilmarnock are carried out by the medical staff of the Burghs concerned, who also attend the respective minor ailment clinic and forward to the Chief School Medical Officer particulars regarding any children requiring special medical or educational treatment.

(b) Supervision of Infectious Disease, including School Closures.

As the medical inspection of school children is under the control of the Medical Officer of Health for each area, all notifiable cases of infectious disease are known. Where it seems to the Head Teacher that there is any undue incidence of non-notifiable disease he brings the matter to the notice of the School Medical Officer. Disinfection of class-rooms is carried out where indicated. No schools were closed as a result of infectious disease during the session.

(c) Co-ordination with Public Health Service.

In the County Area each Assistant Medical Officer is in charge of the School Health and Child Welfare work in a district, so that the same Medical Officer sees the child from birth to school leaving age. The same arrangement exists in the Burghs of Ayr and Kilmarnock.

(d) Presence of Parents at Inspection.

The presence of parents is encouraged at school medical inspection. Many defects are pointed out to them, of which they were previously unaware, and thus the services of the family doctor are solicited earlier than otherwise would have been the case, with more satisfactory results in the way of prevention and cure. The number of parents who attended the routine inspections during the year was 4,102

V.—THE FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) Routine.

The number of children examined was 15,670, of whom 4,346 or 27·73 per cent. suffered from some defect. Of these 2,528 or 16·13 per cent. of the children examined suffered from minor defects or ailments from which recovery was expected in a few weeks, and 1,530 or 9·76 per cent. suffered from defects less remediable, but from which complete recovery or restoration of function was ultimately anticipated. The number suffering from defects where improvement only could be expected was 288 or 1·84 per cent. of those examined.

The following is a summary showing the various defects and the percentage found defective at Routine Inspections.

(1) Clothing.

Fifty-nine children were found to have unsatisfactory clothing, 0·38 per cent. of the children examined.

(2) Footgear.

Seven children were found to have unsatisfactory footgear, 0·04 per cent. of the children examined.

(3) Cleanliness.

(a) *Head*.—The number of children found to have dirty or verminous head was 397 or 2·53 per cent. of those examined.

(b) *Body*.—The number of children found to have dirty or verminous bodies was 39 or 0·25 per cent.

(4) Skin.

(a) *Head*.—The following were found to be suffering from skin diseases of the head :—

Impetigo	11 children or 0·07 per cent.
Other Diseases	37 children or 0·24 per cent.

(b) *Body*.—The following skin conditions affecting the body were found :—

Ringworm	2 children or 0·01 per cent.
Impetigo	7 children or 0·04 per cent.
Scabies	4 children or 0·03 per cent.
Other Diseases	216 children or 1·38 per cent.

(5) Nutritional State.

149 children were found to be suffering from slightly defective nutrition and 4 from bad nutrition, being respectively 0·95 and 0·03 per cent. of the children examined.

(6) Mouth and Teeth.

504 children were suffering from unhealthy conditions of the mouth and teeth, 3·22 per cent. of the children examined.

(7) Nasopharynx.

(a) *Nose*.—Apart from cases requiring further observation, 81 children or 0·52 per cent. of those examined showed obstruction, probably due to adenoids requiring operation.

(b) *Throat*.—Apart from cases requiring further observation, 36 children or 0·23 per cent. of those examined were found to have tonsils which required operative treatment.

(c) *Glands*.—Enlarged Glands requiring further observation were found in 163 or 1·04 per cent. of the children examined, while 1 child or 0·006 per cent. had Glands requiring operation.

(8) Eyes.

Infective conditions of the lids or conjunctiva were found in 127 children or 0·81 per cent. of those examined.

Corneal Opacities were found in 10 or 0·06 per cent. of the children.

Squint affected 299 children or 1·91 per cent.

Visual Acuity.—Vision was not examined in entrants. Of those in the other age groups 1,055 or 10·81 per cent. had defective vision requiring refraction. In addition 5,010 children in the seven-year-old group were examined in place of entrants. Of these 450 were found to require refraction.

(9) Ears.

Otorrhoea or discharge from the ears affected 73 children or 0·47 per cent.

Defective hearing was present in 55 children or 0·35 per cent. Twenty-eight were classified in Grade I. Deafness—that is children who can be educated in the ordinary school without special provision, and 22 in Grade II (a) Deafness—that is children who can make satisfactory progress in ordinary schools if given some help, *e.g.*, favourable position in class, individual hearing aid or tuition in lip-reading.

Five children were classified in Grade II. (b) Deafness—that is children who can make satisfactory progress only in a Special School.

(10) Speech.

Of the children examined 66 or 0·42 per cent. suffered from defective articulation and 7 or 0·04 per cent. from stammering.

(11) Mental and Nervous Conditions.

Nine children or 0·06 per cent. were found to be educable mental defectives.

Other mental or nervous conditions affected 66 or 0·42 per cent. of the children examined.

(12) Circulatory System.

Fifty-seven children were found to be suffering from organic heart disease, comprising 0·36 per cent. of the children examined. Of these 46 were Congenital and 11 Acquired.

(13) Lungs.

The number of children suffering from chronic bronchitis was 46 or 0·29 per cent. of those examined.

There were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer as suspected cases of Tuberculosis 6 children or 0·04 per cent.

Other diseases of the Lungs affected 105 children or 0·67 per cent.

(14) Deformities.

Deformities dating from birth affected 69 children or 0.44 per cent.

Deformities due to Infantile Paralysis affected 8 children or 0.05 per cent.

Deformities due to Rickets affected 37 children or 0.24 per cent.

Deformities due to other causes, for instance flat feet, affected 97 children or 0.62 per cent.

(15) Infectious Disease.

There were discovered 3 cases of Infectious Disease, 0.02 per cent. of the children examined.

(16) Other Diseases or Defects.

435 Children or 2.78 per cent. of those examined were affected.

(b) Special Examinations.

Of the 1,414 special cases examined, 400 were found defective and were notified to parents as requiring treatment. The following is a list of the defects found :—

(1) Unsatisfactory Clothing	6
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(2) Unsatisfactory Footgear	5
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(3) Cleanliness—

Head—Dirty, Nits or Vermin	60
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Body—Dirty, Nits or Vermin	10
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(4) Skin—Head—

Ringworm	1
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Impetigo	5
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Other Diseases	5
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Skin—Body—

Ringworm	1
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Impetigo	3
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Scabies	1
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Other Diseases	21
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(5) Nutritional State—

Slightly Defective	18
Bad	...	...	...	...	...	—

(6) Mouth and Teeth Unhealthy 8**(7) Nose—**

Obstruction requiring observation	27
Obstruction (probable Adenoids) requiring operation	32
Other Conditions	36

Throat—

Tonsils requiring observation	...	...	...	22
Tonsils requiring operative treatment	...	...	...	17

Glands—

Requiring observation	...	...	...	...	12
Requiring operative treatment	...	...	...	...	1

(8) Eyes—**External Diseases—**

Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	...	10
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	15
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	13

Visual Acuity—

Defective Vision (for Refraction)	185
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

(9) Ears—

Otorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	14
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	25

Defective Hearing—

Grade I.	...	...	...	...	...	21
Grade IIa.	...	...	...	...	...	1

(10) Speech—

Defective Articulation	...	...	...	...	14
Stammering	...	...	...	...	5

(11) Mental and Nervous Condition—

Backward	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dull (Intrinsically)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Mental Defective (Eduable)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Mental Defective (Ineducable)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Highly Nervous	...	...	...	...	...	8
Difficult Behaviour	...	...	...	...	...	5

(12) Circulatory System—**Organic Heart Disease—**

Congenital	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acquired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Functional Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	4

(13) Lungs—

Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Suspected Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	12

(14) Deformities—

Congenital	...	...	...	...	...	7
Acquired (Infantile Paralysis)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Acquired (probable Rickets)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	8

(15) Infectious Diseases 1**(16) Other Diseases or Defects 94****(c) Head Infestation in School Children.**

During the first two weeks of the session a survey was made to find whether there had been a deterioration in the cleanliness of heads of school children after the Summer holidays. Thirteen schools were selected in various parts of the County for this purpose.

The results were classified in three groups (a) mild infestation (few nits); (b) marked infestation (many nits); (c) severe infestation (nits and vermin); Six schools were represented in the first, second and third groups, 11 in the first and second groups and all in the first. As was to be expected the girls far exceeded boys in the numbers infested and in the degree of infestation.

The findings of the survey were as follows :—

Total Number Examined—7,462.

Total Degree of Infestation—655 or 8·82 per cent., comprising 476 or 6·38 per cent. mild infestation, 153 or 2·05 per cent. marked infestation, and 26 or 0·39 per cent. severe infestation.

Number of Boys Examined—3,645.

Degree of Infestation—147 or 4·03 per cent., comprising 125 or 3·43 per cent. mild infestation, 19 or 0·52 per cent. marked infestation, and 3 or 0·08 per cent. severe infestation.

Number of Girl Examined—3,817.

Degree of Infestation—508 or 13·37 per cent., comprising 351 or 9·19 per cent. mild infestation, 134 or 3·51 per cent. marked infestation, and 23 or 0·67 per cent. severe infestation.

VI.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(a) Minor Ailments.

There are School Clinics at Auchinleck, Troon, Salteoats, Irvine, Maybole, Girvan, Dalry, Kilbirnie, Galston, Hurlford, Prestwick, Ayr and Kilmarnock, attended by the whole-time Medical Officers. The School Nurses at these Centres assist.

The number of children examined by the medical staff at the Clinics was 2,953, and as many paid recurrent visits there was a total of 8,083 attendances. The following is a list of the defects found :—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Cuts, Bruises, Sprains and Minor Injuries, etc. ... | 441 |
| (2) Diseases of the Ear, largely cases of Otorrhoea ... | 122 |
| (3) Diseases of the Eye, principally Conjunctivitis
and Blepharitis | 223 |
| (4) Diseases of the Skin, 265. This figure comprises
11 cases of Ringworm of Body, 215 cases of Impetigo,
11 cases of Scabies, and 25 cases involving other
diseases of the skin. | |
| (5) Other Diseases, including cases of non-attendance
brought to Clinics on recommendation of Attendance
Officers—2,910. | |

(b) Defective Vision.

During the session the examination of children with defective vision was continued under arrangements made with the Regional Hospital Board. The Clinics are attended by members of the Staff of the Regional Hospital Board working under Dr. W. O. G. Taylor, the Board's Consultant Ophthalmologist for the area.

Opticians attended at certain Clinic sessions to measure and fit those children for whom spectacles had been prescribed by the Ophthalmic Specialist. The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for this arrangement.

Spectacles were prescribed where necessary. The following is a summary of the cases seen for the period :—

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	325
Number of Children Examined	...	...	...	3593
Number of Children Prescribed Spectacles	...	...	...	1902

(c) Specialist Treatment.

I am indebted to the Matron of Scafield Sick Children's Hospital, Ayr, for the following figures of children seen and treated at that Hospital during the year under review :—

Surgical Department—

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	52
Number of Children Examined	...	...	...	1270
Number of Theatres held	...	...	...	175
Number of Children Operated on (304 Emergency)	...	...	...	658

Ophthalmic Department—

Number of Theatres held	...	...	...	55
Number of Children Operated on	...	...	...	270

Medical Department—

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	146
Number of Children Examined	...	...	...	1,773
Number of Admissions	...	...	...	422

Ear, Nose and Throat Department—

Number of Theatres held	...	...	...	292
Number of Children Operated on	...	...	...	2,071
Number of Cases Examined at Clinics	...	...	...	6,346

Orthopaedic Department—

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	...	127
Number of Children Examined	...	...	...	...	3,742
Number of Children recommended for Remedial					

Exercises—

Out-Patient	...	...	...	...	...	1,887
In-Patient	...	...	...	...	...	181
Number of Children Operated on	...	...	...	...	...	77
Number of Children put in Plaster of Paris	...	...	...	...	...	496

Plastic Department—

Number of Patients Admitted	...	...	...	...	180
Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	...	24
Number of Theatres held	...	...	...	...	46

(It is necessary for some patients to be several times in Theatre).

(d) Notes on Audiometric Testing in Ayrshire.

All totally deaf (Grade III.) children of school age in Ayrshire are receiving special education in schools for the deaf, viz. :—

Donaldson's School for the Deaf, Edinburgh	...	...	...	...	5
Glasgow School for the Deaf	...	...	...	...	30
St. Vincent's School, Glasgow	...	...	...	...	11
					—
					46
					==

There are 6 children (still too young for admission) on the waiting-list for Glasgow School for the Deaf.

There are 37 severely deaf (Grade IIb.) children attending schools in Ayrshire. Of these 13 are able, with the help of a hearing-aid and suitable positions in Class, to make some progress in the ordinary school. Nineteen attend Courthill School, Dalry, for partially deaf children, and a boy and a girl who are still under school age are being admitted in September. The parents of the remaining five children preferred to have their children attend the local school.

In the past year 5 children have been fitted with hearing-aids at the Hearing Aid Clinics at Ballochmyle Hospital. The position with regard to hearing-aids is as follows :—

(a) No. of Children wearing Hearing-Aids at 1st August, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	46
(b) No. of Children supplied with Hearing-Aids during School Session (1953-54)	...	...				10
						<hr/> 56
(c) No. of Children at (a) who left School during Session (1953-54)	...	...	...	...	9	
(d) No. of Children who ceased to require Hearing-Aids during Session (1953-54)	...	...			1	10
					—	<hr/>
(e) No. of School Children wearing Hearing-Aids at 31st July, 1954	...	...	...	...		46
						<hr/>

Of the 153 children referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics from Schools, 135 (88%) attended and subsequently received treatment and operations, when necessary, from the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

RESULT OF GRAMOPHONE AUDIOMETRIC TESTS IN ALL SCHOOLS IN AYRSHIRE.

Year Ending 31st July, 1954.

Group.	No. of Children Listed.	No. of Children Tested.	No. of Children Normal.	No. of Children Defective.	Grade.				No. of Children referred to E.N.T. Clinic.	No. of Children referred to Hearing Aid Clinic.	Retests.			
					I.	IIA.	IIB.	III.			Normal.	Sh. Imp.	No. Imp.	Det.
Children Born in 1945 ...	4547	4272	4046 94.71%	226 5.29%	165 3.86%	60 1.40%	1 0.02%	—	38 0.89%	—	—	—	—	—
Children Born in 1944. Absent at previous test	281	224	214	10	7	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Children of any other age thought to have a Hearing Defect ...	647	592	379	213	104	105	4	—	64	—	—	—	—	—
Retests. Children showing defect at previous test	964	743	290	453	198	232	23	—	48	—	290	130	254	69

RESULT OF PURETONE AUDIOMETRIC TESTS AT EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC IN SEAFIELD HOSPITAL, AYR, AND AYRSHIRE CENTRAL HOSPITAL, IRVINE.

Children attending E.N.T. Clinic (New Cases) ...	—	343	62	281	127	142	7	5	115	3	—	—	—	—
Retests ...	—	255	80	175	82	80	8	5	20	2	80	85	71	19

(e) **Psychiatric Service (Period 1/9/53 to 31/7/54).**

Dr. Aron, County Psychiatrist, reports as follows :—

“ During the above period a total of 111 cases of maladjustment in children have been referred to the Psychiatrist for diagnosis and treatment or disposal. Of the total, 18 have been old cases, again referred.

The sources from which maladjusted children have been referred to the Psychiatrist have been these :—

<i>By Whom Referred.</i>	<i>Total Number of Cases.</i>
Educational Psychologists and Speech Therapists	40
Paediatrician	11
School Medical Officers	19
All other Medical Sources... ..	17
Juvenile Courts and Probation Officers...	14
All other Sources	10
	111

Admissions—

- 1 ... Waverley Park Certified Institution, Kirkintilloch.
- 1 ... Lennox Castle Institution, Lennoxtown.

Disposal effected where a Child had to be sent away from home—

- 1 ... Salesian House, Aberdour (placed at the request of the Children's Committee of the Burgh of Kilmarnock).
- 2 ... Approved Schools.

The Psychiatric Service has been benefited considerably by having a social worker attached to it. Unfortunately, attempts to obtain the services of another social worker have hitherto not proved successful.

As will be seen from the above figures the Service is still in process of expansion. The problems which have arisen during the past eight months have been mainly in relation to :—

- (1) The provision of short-term facilities for residential observation and treatment of cases ;

- (2) The provision of occupation centres for ineducable defectives ;
- (3) The needs of the Child Guidance Clinic, Charlotte Street, Ayr, as regards increased accommodation (two rooms of the latter building are still occupied by the County Police)."

VII.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Report by Chief Dental Officer.

The Dentists devoted 471 half-days to the dental inspection of school children and 3,811 half-days to the carrying out of the necessary treatment. Number of attendances 24,031.

Miss Pringle, L.D.S., left the service on 31/12/53 and was replaced by Miss Carnegie, L.D.S., on 11/1/54. Miss Davidson, L.D.S., who resigned on 1/10/53, was not replaced until 8/3/54 by Mr. Macauley, L.D.S. Miss Gale, L.D.S., who resigned on 14/5/54 has not yet been replaced, no suitable dentist making application for the vacancy which has been advertised twice.

These interruptions are to be regretted, as they interfere with the continuity of the service. Nevertheless the Annual Return figures show further steady and encouraging progress.

The dentists undertake the inspection and treatment of pre-school age children, school children and expectant and nursing mothers in their respective areas, so that each dentist is able to follow up patients from an early age, providing continuity of service.

The Orthodontic Service continues to be greatly appreciated and has produced some excellent correction of dental irregularities. The results of this treatment not only improve the appearance of the mouth, lips and profile, but give a great benefit through more efficient mastication. In cases where the child is of the sensitive or introspective type, conscious and worried by the teeth abnormalities and possibly ridiculed by other children, the results of Orthodontic treatment have a beneficial psychological effect. An endeavour is made to see the children in their districts to save travelling ; only the more intricate cases being brought to Ayr, where Dr. Campbell, of Glasgow Dental Hospital, visits monthly. His visits are much appreciated and we are indebted to him for devoting his valuable time to our interests. At certain schools where the number of Orthodontic cases warrants it, the pupils are seen at the school so that their loss of educational time is reduced to a minimum. The attendances at the various clinics numbered 1,652.

The second mobile clinic, delivered at the beginning of the year, has helped to improve the accommodation problem ; but even now each dentist can have the use of a mobile surgery for six weeks only in the year.

Once again our thanks are due to Headmasters and their Staffs for their courtesy and consideration, especially in the vexed problem of accommodation.

The following Tables show details of the Inspection and Treatment given :—

TABLE V.

(a) Inspection—

Number of Children Inspected	...	...	...	23,597
Number of Children requiring Treatment...	...	...	...	16,268
Number of Children for whom Parents accepted Treatment by School Dentists...	...	...	...	7,762
Number of Children not requiring Treatment	...	...	...	7,329
Number of Children for whom Parents stated the Children would be Treated Privately...	...	...	...	7,888
Number of Children for whom the Parents decided to take no action	...	...	...	618
Number of Children Examined as Special or Emergency Cases...	...	...	...	18
Number of Children accepting Treatment as Emergency Cases...	...	...	...	18
Number of Children treated as Emergency Cases	...	...	...	18

(b) Treatment—

Number of Children Treated	...	...	...	9,568
Number of Children Extractions (Temporary Teeth)	...	...	...	7,404
Number of Children Extractions (Permanent Teeth)	...	...	...	1,926
Number of Children Fillings (Temporary Teeth)	...	...	...	1,541
Number of Children Fillings (Permanent Teeth)	...	...	...	12,206
Number of Children Dentures supplied	...	...	...	64
Number of Children Crowns...	...	...	...	1
Number of Children Root Treatments	...	...	...	11
Number of Children Scalings	...	...	...	801
Number of Children Other Operations (Temporary Teeth)	...	...	...	1,899
Number of Children Other Operations (Permanent Teeth)	...	...	...	13,328
Number of Children Special or Emergency Cases	...	...	...	18
Number of Children Special Extractions (Temporary Teeth)	...	...	...	23
Number of Children Special Extractions (Permanent Teeth)	...	...	...	1
Number of Children X-Rays	...	...	...	198

Orthodontics—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	280
Undergoing Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	357
Completed	.	...	...	...	...	71

**VIII.—SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND CLASSES,
INCLUDING OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS.**

(1) St. Leonard's Home Special School, Ayr.

Day pupils were conveyed daily by motor transport from and to their own homes. The number so dealt with was 90, of whom 6 were physically handicapped children and 84 mentally handicapped children.

St. Leonard's Home has 13 physically handicapped children resident, and these are taught in the Physically Handicapped Classes.

There were thus on the school roll 19 physically handicapped and 84 mentally handicapped children.

There are five classrooms, viz., four for mentally handicapped and one for physically handicapped children.

(2) Park Special School, Kilmarnock.

There are on the school roll 68 mentally handicapped children and 28 physically handicapped children.

There are six occupied classrooms, viz., four for mentally handicapped and two for physically handicapped children.

(3) Special School, Saltcoats.

There are on the school roll 38 mentally handicapped and 2 physically handicapped children.

There are three classrooms, viz., two for mentally handicapped and one for physically handicapped children.

(4) Claremont School, Kilbirnie.

This school, which has accommodation for 20 mentally handicapped children, was opened on 8th February, 1954. There are at present 7 children on the school roll.

(5) Courthill Special School, Dalry, for the Partially Deaf.

There are 19 children suffering from Grade IIB. Deafness on the roll of this School. In view of the distance from their homes to the School, 4 children are boarded at St. Leonard's Home, Ayr, and 1 at Burnside Home, Irvine. They are taken to the School daily with the others by special conveyance.

(6) Other Institutions.

At 31/7/54 there were in Institutions :—

Donaldson's School for the Deaf, Edinburgh	...	5
Langside School for the Deaf, Glasgow	... ..	30
St. Vincent's School for the Blind and Deaf, Glasgow		15
Worcester College for the Blind	... ..	1
Royal Blind School, Edinburgh	... ..	9
Condoverhall School, Shrewsbury (for Blind Children with other Disabilities)	... ..	1
Colony for Epileptics, Bridge-of-Weir	... ..	1
St. Elizabeth's School and Home, Much Hadham, Herts		1
Westerlea School for Spastics, Edinburgh	... ..	1
Waverley Park Certified Institution, Kirkintilloch	...	2
St. Joseph's Certified Institution, Rosewell, Midlothian		3
Lennox Castle Certified Institution, Lennoxtown (excluding two on licence)	... ..	12
St. Charles' Certified Institution, Carstairs Junction		1
Royal Scottish Certified Institution, Larbert	...	1
Children's Unit, Crichton Royal, Dumfries	... ..	1
St. Mary's, Balnakiel House, Galashiels	... ..	1
Kilquhanity House, Castle-Douglas	... ..	2
St. Ninians Residential J.S. School, Falkland, Fife	...	1
Widdicombe House, South Devon	... ..	1
Camphill Rudolph Steiner School, Aberdeenshire	...	1
East Park Home for Infirm Children, Largs	...	1

Children requiring convalescent treatment were sent to the Biggart Home, Prestwick, and the number admitted there during the school session, on the recommendation of the School Medical Officers, was 35.

The Special Schools at Kilmarnock and Saltcoats are essentially open-air schools, having a verandah, the external sides of the classrooms being of the roll-back type.

IX.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PERSONAL HYGIENE OF CHILDREN.

(a) Staff and Accommodation.

The Authority employs 74 Specialist Teachers of Physical Education. In Secondary Schools these Teachers have charge of all branches of Physical Education, including Gymnastics, Games, Dancing, Swimming, Athletics and Hygiene. In Primary Schools the aim is that every Class should have one lesson per week from a Specialist Teacher, the remaining Physical Training Lessons being taken by the Class Teachers.

While the majority of schools in the County have indoor accommodation for physical activity (gymnasias, central halls, rented halls, etc.), special attention is given to the provision of an area of the playground suitably surfaced to allow exercise to be taken in the open as often as the vagaries of our climate permit.

The whole Scheme of Physical Education is co-ordinated by the County Organisers of Physical Education.

(b) Swimming.

By arrangement with Kilmarnock Town Council the local schools have the use of the Corporation Swimming Baths throughout the session. Approximately 1,100 pupils from Primary VII. stage upward have a swimming lesson each week, all year round.

Similar facilities are available at Cumnock, Prestwick, Troon and Salcoats during the summer term.

(c) Camp Schools and Trek Camps.

During the school year the Education Committee has the use of the Camp School at Broomlee for four months. This allows approximately 2,000 pupils to go into residence for a period of two weeks.

For the month of July selected schools are equipped as camps, and parties of 20 pupils, aged 12 to 15, escorted by two teachers spend a week walking from camp to camp, sleeping one night at each. Meals are supplied from County Kitchens. In July, 1954, 800 pupils and 100 teachers took part in this Scheme. Parties now have the option of walking in Fife or Midlothian, where similar Schemes operate.

All pupils attending Camp School or taking part in Treks are previously examined by the School Medical Staff.

X.—OTHER ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Milk and Meals Supplied to School Children.

The number of children who took advantage of the Milk-in-Schools Scheme was 42,720.

Meals were supplied to 17,092 children, of whom 2,680 were supplied free.

XI.—THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The following Tables show the number examined and the physical condition of the children under the respective headings :—

TABLE I.

(a) Total Number of Children Examined at—

Primary and Junior Secondary Schools—	<i>Systematic Examinations</i>
Entrants	5,913
Children born in 1946 (Visual Acuity only)...	5,010
Children born in 1944	4,761
Children born in 1940	4,554
Senior Secondary Schools—	
Children Born in 1937	442
TOTAL	<u>20,680</u>

(b) Other Examinations—

Special Cases	1,414
Re-Examinations—Number Examined	4,360
Treatment Completed	2,572
Receiving Treatment	537
On Waiting List for Treatment... ..	176
Condition Unchanged—Under Observation	1,075
TOTAL	<u>5,774</u>

(c) **The Number of Individual Children Inspected at Systematic Examinations who were Notified to Parents as requiring Treatment:**

Entrants	976
Children Born in 1944	701
Children Born in 1940	647
Children Born in 1937	32
TOTAL	2,356

(d) **Average Heights and Weights—**

<i>Group Examined.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>No. Exam.</i>	<i>Average Age Months.</i>	<i>Average Height Inches.</i>	<i>Average Weight Pounds.</i>
Entrants	Male	3032	64·7	43·6	44·2
	Female	2881	64·7	44·0	42·3
Children Born in 1944	Male	2412	114·7	52·6	66·0
	Female	2349	114·7	52·2	65·0
Children Born in 1940	Male	2279	163·2	60·6	98·6
	Female	2275	163·6	61·3	102·2
Children Born in 1937	Male	242	200·9	68·2	136·4
	Female	200	201·3	64·0	124·1

TABLE II.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE—SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Number examined
1. Clothing—											
Unsatisfactory
Percentage
2. Footgear—											
Unsatisfactory
Percentage
3. Cleanliness—											
Head—											
Dirty, Nits or Vermin
Percentage
Body—											
Dirty, or Verminous
Percentage

TABLE II.—Continued.

School Medical Service—Systematic Examinations—Continued.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
4. Skin—											
Head—											
Ringworm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo...	1	4	2	1	2	1	—	—	5	6	11
Percentage	0.03	0.14	0.08	0.04	0.09	0.04	—	—	0.06	0.08	0.07
Other Diseases	5	8	4	5	9	4	2	—	20	17	37
Percentage	0.16	0.28	0.17	0.21	0.39	0.18	0.83	—	0.25	0.22	0.24
Body—											
Ringworm	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2
Percentage	—	—	—	—	0.04	0.04	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01
Impetigo...	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	5	2	7
Percentage	0.10	0.03	0.08	0.04	—	—	—	—	0.06	0.03	0.04
Scabies ...	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2	2	4
Percentage	0.03	—	0.04	0.04	—	0.04	—	—	0.03	0.03	0.03
Other Diseases	48	44	33	25	21	35	3	7	105	111	216
Percentage	1.58	1.53	1.37	1.06	0.92	1.54	1.24	3.50	1.32	1.44	1.38
5. Nutritional State—											
Slightly Defective...	31	39	25	22	21	9	2	—	79	70	149
Percentage	1.02	1.35	1.04	0.94	0.92	0.40	0.83	—	0.99	0.91	0.95
Bad ...	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	4
Percentage	—	0.07	0.04	—	—	0.04	—	—	0.01	0.04	0.03

TABLE II. — *Continued.*School Medical Service—Systematic Examinations—*Continued.*

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
6. Mouth and Teeth											
Unhealthy ...	140	117	85	55	55	50	—	—	282	222	504
Percentage ...	4.62	4.06	3.52	2.34	2.41	2.20	0.83	—	3.54	2.88	3.22
7. Nose—											
Obstruction requiring Observation	100	61	29	19	10	11	—	—	139	91	230
Percentage ...	3.30	2.12	1.20	0.81	0.44	0.48	—	—	1.75	1.18	1.47
Obstruction (probably Adenoids) requiring Operation ...	36	31	2	7	4	—	1	—	43	38	81
Percentage ...	1.19	1.08	0.08	0.30	0.18	—	0.41	—	0.54	0.49	0.52
Other Conditions ...	71	39	33	15	7	11	2	—	113	65	178
Percentage ...	2.34	1.35	1.37	0.64	0.31	0.48	0.83	—	1.42	0.84	1.14
Throat—											
Tonsils requiring Observation ...	171	127	54	51	11	40	—	1	236	219	455
Percentage ...	5.64	4.41	2.24	2.17	0.48	1.76	—	0.50	2.96	2.84	2.90
Tonsils requiring Operative Treatment...	11	7	11	3	—	4	—	—	22	14	36
Percentage ...	0.36	0.24	0.46	0.13	—	0.18	—	—	0.28	0.18	0.23
Glands—											
Requiring Observation ...	76	53	13	13	2	5	—	1	91	72	163
Percentage ...	2.51	1.84	0.54	0.55	0.09	0.22	—	0.50	1.14	0.93	1.04
Requiring Operative Treatment	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Percentage ...	—	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.006

TABLE II.—Continued.

School Medical Service—Systematic Examinations—Continued.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Number Examined	3032	2881	2412	2349	2279	2275	242	200	7 65	7705	15,670
9. Ears—											
Otorrhoea ...	9	19	11	10	11	13	—	—	31	42	73
Percentage ...	0.30	0.66	0.46	0.43	0.48	0.57	—	—	0.39	0.55	0.47
Other Diseases ...	5	4	3	2	2	4	1	—	11	10	21
Percentage ...	0.16	0.14	0.12	0.09	0.09	0.18	0.41	—	0.14	0.13	0.13
Defective Hearing—											
Grade I.	9	—	4	4	6	4	1	—	20	8	28
Percentage ...	0.30	—	0.17	0.17	0.26	0.18	0.41	—	0.25	0.10	0.18
Grade II. (a) ...	2	1	6	2	4	7	—	—	12	10	22
Percentage ...	0.07	0.03	0.25	0.09	0.18	0.31	—	—	0.15	0.13	0.14
Grade II. (b) ...	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	3	2	5
Percentage ...	—	—	0.04	—	0.09	0.09	—	—	0.04	0.03	0.03
Grade III. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Speech—											
Defective Articulation ...	32	19	8	3	4	—	—	—	44	22	66
Percentage ...	1.06	0.66	0.33	0.13	0.18	—	—	—	0.55	0.29	0.42
Stammering ...	3	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	2	7
Percentage ...	0.10	0.07	—	—	0.09	—	—	—	0.06	0.03	0.04

TABLE II.—Continued.

School Medical Service—Systematic Examinations—Continued.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
11. Mental and Nervous Condition—											
Backward ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Percentage ...	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.006
Dull (Intrinsically) ...	7	4	3	1	3	2	—	—	13	7	20
Percentage ...	0.23	0.14	0.12	0.04	0.13	0.09	—	—	0.16	0.09	0.13
Mentally Defective (Educable) ...	3	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	6	3	9
Percentage ...	0.10	0.03	0.12	0.09	—	—	—	—	0.08	0.04	0.06
Mentally Defective (Ineducable) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Highly Nervous ...	12	6	4	4	3	2	—	—	19	12	31
Percentage ...	0.40	0.21	0.17	0.17	0.13	0.09	—	—	0.24	0.16	0.20
Difficult in Behaviour ...	5	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	9	14
Percentage ...	0.16	0.28	—	0.04	—	—	—	—	0.06	0.12	0.09
12. Circulatory System—											
Organic Heart Disease—											
Congenital ...	15	11	8	5	3	3	1	—	27	19	46
Percentage ...	0.49	0.38	0.33	0.21	0.13	0.13	0.41	—	0.34	0.25	0.29
Acquired ...	1	2	—	1	5	2	—	—	6	5	11
Percentage ...	0.03	0.07	—	0.04	0.22	0.09	—	—	0.08	0.06	0.07
Functional Conditions ...	10	7	7	5	4	10	2	—	21	24	45
Percentage ...	0.33	0.24	0.29	0.21	0.18	0.44	1.00	—	0.26	0.31	0.29

TABLE II.—Continued.

School Medical Service—Systematic Examinations.—Continued.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		All Ages.		Total at all Ages.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
13. Lungs—											
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	11	11	6	6	8	2	1	1	26	20	46
Suspected Tuberculosis	0.36	0.38	0.25	0.26	0.35	0.09	0.41	0.50	0.33	0.26	0.29
Percentage	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	2	6
Other Diseases	0.10	0.03	0.04	0.04	—	—	—	—	0.05	0.03	0.04
Percentage	34	22	18	15	11	3	2	—	65	40	105
Percentage	1.12	0.76	0.75	0.64	0.48	0.13	0.83	—	0.82	0.52	0.67
14. Deformities—											
Congenital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	22	26	5	2	10	2	2	—	39	30	69
Acquired (Infantile Paralysis)	0.73	0.90	0.21	0.09	0.44	0.09	0.83	—	0.49	0.39	0.44
Percentage	4	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	6	2	8
Acquired (probable Rickets)	0.13	—	0.08	0.04	—	0.04	—	—	0.08	0.03	0.05
Percentage	16	5	8	1	5	2	—	—	29	8	37
Acquired (Other Causes)	0.53	0.17	0.33	0.04	0.22	0.09	—	—	0.36	0.10	0.24
Percentage	25	16	14	6	15	14	3	4	57	40	97
Percentage	0.82	0.55	0.58	0.26	0.66	0.62	1.24	2.00	0.71	0.52	0.62
15. Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Percentage	0.07	—	0.04	—	—	—	—	—	0.04	—	0.02
16. Other Diseases or Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	124	113	52	40	51	46	6	3	233	202	435
Percentage	4.09	3.92	2.16	1.70	2.24	2.02	2.48	1.5	2.93	2.62	2.78

TABLE III.—SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE—SUMMARY OF SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.

Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		Total.		
Number Examined	...	5913	4761	4554	442	15,670				
	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children examined in this Group.	
1. Children Free from Defects...	4175	70.61	3424	71.91	3389	74.42	836	76.02	11,324	72.27
2. Children otherwise Free from Defects who Suffer from—										
(a) Defective Vision not worse than 6/12 in the better Eye with or without Glasses or	14	0.24	355	7.46	417	9.16	51	11.54	837	5.34
(b) Oral Sepsis, etc.	212	3.58	120	2.52	69	1.52	1	0.23	402	2.56
(c) Both (a) and (b)	—	—	5	0.11	7	0.15	—	—	12	0.08
Total	226	3.82	480	10.09	493	10.83	52	11.77	1251	7.98
3. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in 2) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks ...	764	12.92	312	6.55	191	4.19	10	2.26	1277	8.15

TABLE III.—School Medical Service—Summary of Systematic Examinations—Continued.

Number Examined	Entrants.		1944		1940		1937		Total.	
	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.	No. of Children.	% of the Children examined in this Group.
...	5913		4761		4554		442		15,670	
4. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in 2 or 3 distinguishing cases—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect full correction) is considered possible ...	656	11.09	452	9.5	386	8.47	36	8.14	1530	9.76
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function ...	92	1.56	93	1.95	95	2.09	8	1.81	288	1.84
Total ...	748	12.65	545	11.45	481	10.56	44	9.95	1818	11.60
Total Number of Children Examined ...	5913	100%	4761	100%	4554	100%	442	100%	15,670	100%

TABLE IV.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE—RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

Disability.		At Ordinary School.	At Special School or Classes.	In Hospital or Institution.	At No School or Institution.	Total.
1. Blind	...	—	13	—	—	13
2. Partially Sighted—						
(a)	Refraction errors in which the curriculum of an Ordinary School would adversely affect the Eye Condition ...	50	1	—	1	52
(b)	Other conditions of the Eye, <i>e.g.</i> , Cataract, Ulceration, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school ...	10	—	—	—	10
3. Deaf—						
Grade I.	...	474	—	—	—	474
Grade II. (a)	...	400	—	—	—	400
Grade II. (b)	...	18	19	—	—	37
Grade III.	...	—	46	—	—	46

TABLE IV.—Continued.

School Medical Service—Return of all Exceptional Children of School Age in the Area—Continued.

Disability.		At Ordinary School.	At Special School or Classes.	In Hospital or Institution.	At No School or Institution.	Total.
4. Defective Speech—						
(a) Defects of Articulation requiring Special Educational Measures ...		142	—	—	—	142
(b) Stammering requiring Special Educational Measures ...		48	—	—	—	48
5. Mentally Defective (Children between 5 and 16 Years)—						
(a) Educable (I.Q., approx. 50-70) ...		109	185	20	3	317
(b) Ineducable (I.Q., generally less than 50) ...		—	5	20	99	124
6. Epilepsy—						
(a) Mild and Occasional ...		34	—	—	—	34
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a Residential School) ...		—	2	1	3	6
7. Physically Defective (Children between 5 and 16 Years)—						
(a) Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (excluding Cervical Glands)		36	5	5	1	47
(b) General Orthopaedic Conditions ...		209	16	20	9	254
(c) Organic Heart Disease ...		95	3	—	—	98
(d) Other Causes of Ill Health ...		35	11	—	1	47

